This month, we celebrate Jane Austen's birthday (December 16, 1775).

JASNA-SW Winter Meeting: Reading in the Time of Jane Austen

Saturday, Dec. 5
UCLA Faculty Center

Registration 9-10 a.m.

Program 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Jane Austen
Unscripted returns to
The Broad, Dec. 4-20.

The annual Jane
Austen Evening,
featuring an afternoon
of tea, discourse,
music, and dance in
the spirit of the
estimable Miss
Austen, returns Jan.
23.

We look forward to seeing you at the Winter Meeting on
Saturday, Dec. 5 at UCLA. If you can't make it, the next
issue of the JASNA-Southwest newsletter will recap the
day's highlights.

For those who are attending, this meeting's raffle will
allow you to choose which wonderful basket of Austen
goodies you wish to "compete" to win.

We also will hold a White Elephant Sale. Members are
invited to donate books and other items of interest to
JASNA-SW members. Proceeds will support JASNA-SW.

We'll also be treated to the following presentations:

Claire Bellanti
"You Can Get a Parasol at Whitby's": Circulating Libraries
in Jane Austen's Time
This presentation is an illustrated talk about an 18th
century social institution that was very important to Jane
Austen in her own life and her fiction, the Circulating
Library. Claire will give us a brief history of the circulating
library and citations from Austen's novels and letters to
explain the centrality of the circulating library and other
forms of sharing books in Regency England.

Emily Bergman and Alice Bergman
Bibliotherapy and Healing: "What Would Elizabeth Bennet
Do?"
Reading is a healing experience and that experience is the
core of Bibliotherapy, an expressive therapy that uses the
patient's relationship to the content of books to assist with
the resolution of complex problems. The treatment is
based on the human inclination to identify with others as
expressed in literature. In this presentation, which include
audience participation, Alice and Emily will show us how
Pride and Prejudice is used in therapy to assist patients and
Visit Our Website for more about programs, reading groups, and more.

Rand Boyd
Pressman and Bookbinder: A Look at 18th Century Book Design and Printing
Rand Boyd, coordinator of Special Collections and Archives at Chapman University, will provide a broad overview of the developments in book layout, ornamentation and typography in North America and England during the 18th century. This special presentation will focus specifically on the novel.

JASNA 2016 Essay Contest

In celebration of the 200th anniversary of the publication of *Emma*, the Jane Austen Society of North American is accepting submissions for short essays on the following topic:

Education is a running theme in *Emma*. For instance, the story includes teacher/pupil relationships, a school, and former and aspiring governesses. Discuss how this emphasis shapes the plot, develops the characters, or reflects the views of the period.

Eligibility: Students at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate level may enter.
Judging: Judges will select first-, second-, and third-place winners in each of the three divisions.

Awards: Winners will receive cash scholarships (ranging from $250 to $1,000), a year's membership in JASNA, and publication of their essays on the JASNA website. First-place winners will receive complimentary registration and two nights' lodging for the 2016 JASNA Annual General Meeting in Washington, D.C., Oct. 21-23.

Entry deadline: May 15, 2106

Information: Visit the Essay Contest page of jasna.org.

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Emma's 200th anniversary

Emma Woodhouse turns 200 this month and is being revisited not only by Janeites but also by scholars and journalists/bloggers alike. Following are just a few recent stories on the enduring and sometimes endearing Miss Woodhouse and her eternally brilliant creator:

Why Jane Austen's *Emma* Still Intrigues 200 Years Later, *Time*

Why *Emma* is Jane Austen's Greatest Achievement (another interview with Juliet Wells), *[flavorwire](https://www.flavorwire.com)*

Eugene Lang College Celebrates 200th Anniversary of Jane Austen's *Emma*, *[The New School blog](https://www.thenewschool.edu/blog)*

Review of the 200th Anniversary Annotated Edition by Jane Austen, *[PopMatters](https://www.popmatters.com)*
(including actress Emilia Clarke on her love for *Clueless*, which she mentioned on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* in June)

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**Austen-Style Holiday Shopping**

The holiday season is fast upon us. What do you get for the Janeite who has everything? Perhaps a limited edition *Emma* anniversary *t-shirt*? Or a *Mr. Darcy ornament*? The deluxe annotated versions of all of the novels (except for Mansfield Park, not yet available)? A Jane Austen *action figure*? A *Marrying Mr. Darcy* board game?
A few websites highlighting Austen-inspired gifts:
Jane Austen Gift Shop
Austen gifts at Amazon.com
PopSugar
Zazzle
Etsy
Cafe Press
Buzzfeed
ANNOUNCEMENT:
A new South Bay Reading Group has formed! The first meeting will be on Sunday, January 10 in Redondo Beach. See details below.

Send us photos from your reading group so we can share them here, on our Facebook page and/or the JASNA-SW website.

Saturday, December 12, 12:30 p.m.
**Long Beach Reading Group**
*Lady Susan* by Jane Austen
For more information, email Gerda Kilgore or call her at 562-496-4452.

Sunday, December 13, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
**West Los Angeles Reading Group**
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
Discussion leader: Dr. Charles Lynn Batten
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may email Clara Browda or call her at 310-278-8759 for more information on upcoming meetings.
A second Westside Reading Group has formed! To get on the mailing list, email Karen Berk or call her at 310-477-6753.

Sunday, January 10, 2-4 p.m.
**South Bay Reading Group (NEW!)**
The Real Jane Austen: A Life in Small Things
by Paula Byrne
Location: Redondo Beach (email/call for address)
This will be the first meeting of the new South Bay reading group! To RSVP or for more information, email Jeanine Holguin or call her at 805-444-8999.

Sunday, January 17, 5:30 p.m.
**Santa Monica Reading Group**
The Fair Jilt by Aphra Behn
and
The Secret Life of Aphra Behn by Janet Todd
Location: Hermosa Beach (email/call for address)
For more information, email Diana Birchalls or call her at 310-394-2196.

Sunday, January 17, 12:30 p.m.
**Orange County Reading Group**
Emma by Jane Austen
For more information, email Annmarie Thomas or call her at 949-487-7028.

Sunday, January 24, 1:30-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
Pursuit of Love by Nancy Mitford
For more information, email Cheryl Cole or call her at 310-422-5475.

Saturday, January 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
**San Gabriel Valley Reading Group**
Location: Lamanda Library, 140 S. Altadena Drive, Pasadena
Book: TBD
For more information, email Kelly Dui or call her at 909-967-6630.

Sunday, February 21, 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
West Los Angeles Reading Group
*Shirley* by Charlotte Bronte
Discussion leader: Dr. Charles Lynn Batten
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may email [Clara Browda](mailto:Clara.Browda@library.org) or call her at 310-278-8759 for more information on upcoming meetings.

Sunday, March 6, 2-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*Jane's Fame* by Claire Harman
For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:Cheryl.Cole@library.org) or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, May 15, 2-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:Cheryl.Cole@library.org) or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, July 17, 2-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*The Prime Minister* by Anthony Trollope
For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:Cheryl.Cole@library.org) or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, September 18, 2-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*Emma* by Jane Austen
For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:Cheryl.Cole@library.org) or call her at 310-422-5475.

Sunday, November 13, 2-4 p.m.
**San Fernando Valley Reading Group**
*Dean's Watch* by Elizabeth Goudge
For more information, email [Cheryl Cole](mailto:Cheryl.Cole@library.org) or call her at 310-422-5475.

**Additional Reading Groups**

**Pasadena Area Reading Group**
This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may email [Susan Ridgeway](mailto:Susan.Ridgeway@library.org) or call her at 626-357-1397 for information on upcoming meetings.

*The San Gabriel Valley Reading Group is accepting members. Email [Kelly Duir](mailto:Kelly.Duir@library.org) or call her at 909-967-6630.*
Riverside County Reading Group
Meetings are held at the Temecula Public Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula, in Community Room B. For more information, email Rebecca Weersing or call her at 951-595-7046.

Ventura Reading Group
The group usually meets on the third Saturday of every month at 11:30 a.m. in the E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main Street, Ventura, California 93001, 805-648-2715.

San Diego Reading Group
Although San Diego is a separate JASNA region, many JASNA-Southwest members are interested in San Diego JASNA events and vice versa. For information on upcoming San Diego JASNA meetings, email Jeanne Talbot or call her at 808-342-0666.

Join us on Facebook
Are you on Facebook? So is JASNA-SW! Stay connected in between our meetings and e-newsletter updates, share your Austen-related stories, favorites, travel, and more with fellow Janeites!