



Jane Austen Society of North America, Southwest Region

October 2018 Newsletter

Registration Coming Soon for Winter 2018 Meeting at Sony



Join us at Sony Pictures Studio in Culver City for a very special Winter 2018 Regional Meeting.

Jane Austen in Hollywood
Saturday, December 8

Tickets

Members, \$85

Guests and Nonmembers, \$100

Students, \$50

Free parking

Actual cost of the event, \$120

(The rest is being underwritten by JASNA Southwest as a thank you to our members for our successful 2017 Annual General Meeting in Huntington Beach.)

Member registration begins in mid-October.
General public registration will begin late October/early November.

NOTE: Members will be able to sign up guests during the member registration period, but must pay the nonmember rate for guests.

Featured Speakers:
Linda Troost and Sayre Greenfield
(editors of *Jane Austen in Hollywood*)

The Unfilmable Jane Austen: The Case of Northanger Abbey

Northanger Abbey is hard to put successfully on film because it concerns itself with temporal change, both personal and cultural: It captures people and culture on the move. It requires, unlike Jane Austen's other novels, a sense of how British culture evolves over time. Any modern potential film audience will be so aware of the split between our present and Austen's world as the past that it becomes difficult to portray on screen Austen's concern with defining modernity in *Northanger Abbey*. In this novel, Jane is Janus, looking forward and backward, serving as goddess of a doorway through time. One cannot pass through the same doorway twice, however, and any period film of that novel will have an impossible time recapturing modernity that is 200 years old.



Linda Troost



Sayre Greenfield

Linda Troost and Sayre Greenfield both hold their PhDs from the University of Pennsylvania, and together they edited *Jane Austen in Hollywood*, the first book about the Austen film phenomenon. Together and separately, they have published many articles on Jane Austen and lectured in the United States, Canada, England and Australia. In spring 2015, they spent several weeks at the Chawton Library as Visiting Fellows. Troost is chair of the English Department at Washington and Jefferson College and, until this academic year, Greenfield chaired the Humanities Division at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, where he teaches. They are both Life Members of JASNA and have been married to each

other for 36 years.

Time to Get Out the Vote!

Don't forget: You can [vote for Pride and Prejudice](#) twice a day on the PBS website *and* via the dedicated P&P phone line (855-443-6579) as part of the Great American Read series. **Voting ends at midnight on October 18.**

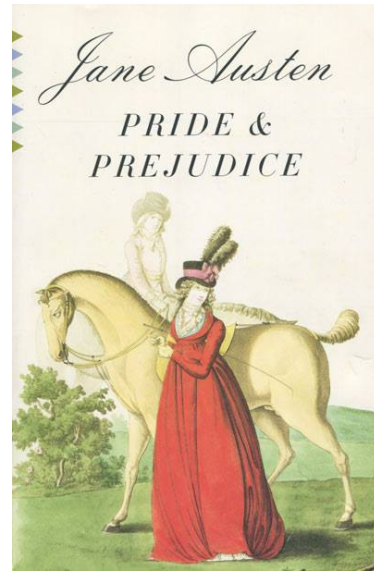
Here's the remainder of the Great American Read fall television schedule:

Villains and Monsters (premieres Oct. 2)
What We Do For Love (premieres Oct. 9)
Other Worlds (premieres Oct. 16)
Grand Finale (premieres Oct. 23)

JASNA is featured in the [What We Do For Love](#) episode (see a preview). We were featured in May's [launch special](#), which can be viewed online.

[The Great American Read](#) is an eight-part series that explores and celebrates the power of reading, told through the prism of America's 100 best-loved novels (as chosen in a national survey). It investigates how and why writers create their fictional worlds, how we as readers are affected by these stories, and what these 100 different books have to say about our diverse nation and our shared human experience.

Janeites represent! #VOTE PridePrej



2018 AGM Highlights



The 2018 Annual General Meeting of the Jane Austen Society of North America, held in Kansas City, garnered record-breaking attendance, with more than 900 participants! The theme was *Persuasion, 200 Years of Constancy and Hope*.

Highlights included the enlightening and engaging opening plenary by John Mullan (author of *What Matters in Jane Austen? Twenty Crucial Puzzles Solved*), whose talk focused on self-delusion in *Persuasion*; another illuminating presentation by Sheryl Craig on the novel's economic background; and Gordon Laco, historic consultant for the feature film *Master and Commander*, who shared many insights into the Royal Navy. A special treat was hearing Amanda Root read from both the novel and the journal she wrote from Anne Elliot's perspective as she was preparing for the role in the acclaimed 1995 feature film.

Visit the JASNA Southwest website for video from the [Promenade and the Regency Ball!](#)



Amanda Root



Our own Claire Bellanti, who presided over her last AGM as JASNA president



Fall 2018 Meeting:
200 Years of *Persuasion*



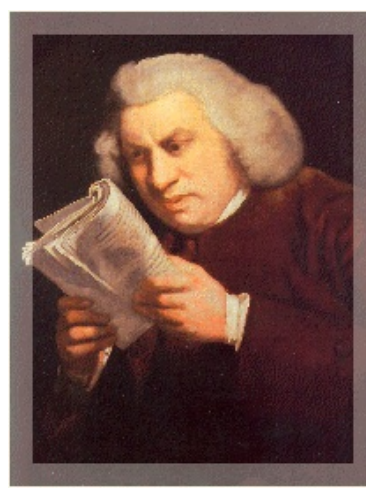
Our Fall Meeting on Sept. 8 drew 135 registered attendees to the Pasadena Public Library for *200 Years of Persuasion* -- featuring speakers Collins Hemingway (above) and Lynda Hall and Erika Kotite (right).

The full story will appear in the next issue of the JASNA Southwest newsletter.



Samuel Johnson Society Dinner
November 18, 2018

This year's annual dinner for [The Samuel Johnson Society of the West](#) will feature Claudia Johnson, the Murray Professor of English Literature at Princeton University. Her topic will be "Hard Reading: Austen (and Johnson)," and will explore the difficulty of Austen's style, its tendency to be self-negating and its relationship to Johnson.



The event will be held on Sunday, November 18, at Haaga Hall at the Huntington Library in San Marino, beginning with social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The event includes an 18th century-inspired meal as well as period harp music provided by Jerry Ripley. The evening generally concludes by 9:30 p.m. In addition to lively conversation and good food and drink, an exhibition of works from the Huntington collection will complement the subject of the talk. Dress is business casual.

Johnson will deliver the 25th Daniel G. Blum Memorial Lecture at the 2018 dinner meeting. She has published extensively on the 18th century novel and is the author of such critical studies as *Jane Austen's Cults and Cultures*, which won the Christian Gauss Award, and *Equivocal Beings: Politics, Gender, and Sentimentality in the 1790s*, and *Jane Austen: Women, Politics, and the Novel*. Most recently, she published a new edition of Austen's *The Beautifull Cassandra: A Novel in Twelve Chapters*.

Cost of the SJSW dinner meeting is \$75 for nonmembers and \$65 for members; special rates are available for graduate students (\$30). To reserve your space, print and complete the [SJSW Reservation Form](#) and mail your check to [Myron Yeager](#) to arrive no later than November 12. Credit cards are not accepted. No tickets will be mailed. Your tickets will be held in your name at the dinner.



Emma the Musical Coming to Orange County Nov. 23-Dec. 23

Chance Theater at the Bette Aiken Theater Arts Center in Anaheim is staging *Emma the Musical* from November 23-December 23. Book, lyrics and music are by Tony-nominated composer Paul Gordon. The production is recommended for ages 4 and up.



Check the [Chance Theater website](#) for ticket information.



2018 Young Filmmakers Contest



The Southwest Region of the Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA) is accepting video submissions for our second Young Filmmakers Contest.

Students at the high school, college and graduate-school levels (including spring 2018 graduates) are eligible to compete for the contest. The top submissions will be screened at our December 2018 regional meeting and a "crowd favorite" award will be bestowed on the favorite submission selected by JASNA Southwest members.

Winning entrants will receive a small cash prize, a year's membership in JASNA and paid admission to the Dec. 8 JASNA Southwest regional meeting at Sony Pictures Studios. Works must be five minutes or less in duration, shot in widescreen format and adapted from or inspired by Jane Austen's writing or life. Otherwise, contestants are encouraged to use their imagination. You may submit comedies, dramas or documentaries in live action or animation. Your entries may be modernizations or mashups of Austen and another public domain author. They may be set any time from the Regency era to the present or even in the future. They may be cast with puppets, pets or people. Let your imagination and inspiration run wild!

Deadline is November 1, 2018. View our [entry form](#) for more details and all rules and regulations. For any questions, contact [Erika Kotite](#).



Reading/Game Groups



San Gabriel Valley Reading Group

Saturday, October 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Reading Group

The Younger Sister by Jane Austen and Catherine Hubback (Austen's niece) (a continuation of *The Watsons*) (first half)

Location: Mt. San Antonio Gardens, Gallery Room, Claremont

For more information, contact [Kelly Duir](#), 909-967-6630.

Sunday, October 14, 1:30 p.m.

West Los Angeles Reading Group

Persuasion by Jane Austen

This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact [Clara Browda](#), 310-278-8759.

Saturday, October 20, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Ventura County Reading Group

The Genius of Jane Austen: Her Love of Theater and Why She Works in Hollywood by Paula Byrne

Location: E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main Street, Ventura

For more information, contact [Priscilla Diamond](#).

Sunday, October 21, 5:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Reading Group

The Lives of the Muses: Nine Women and the Artists They Inspired by Francine Prose

For more information, contact [Kathi Stafford](#).

Saturday, October 27, 1-3 p.m.

Westside/405 Reading Group

Cluny Brown by Margery Sharp

Location: home of Syrie James

For more information, contact [Karen Berk](#), 310-477-6753.

Sunday, November 4, 2-4 p.m.

South Bay Reading Group

Lady Audley's Secret by Mary Elizabeth Braddon

For more information, contact [Jeanine Holguin](#), 805-444-8999.

Sunday, November 4, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Orange County Reading Group

Jane by the Sea: Jane Austen's Love Story by Carolyn V. Murray

For more information, contact [Viki Barie](#), 714-309-6702.

Sunday, November 11

Pasadena Area Reading Group

The History of Tom Jones, a Foundling by Henry Fielding

This group is at capacity and cannot accept new members. Current members may contact

[Susan Ridgeway](#), 626-357-1397.

Sunday, November 11, 2-4 p.m.

San Fernando Valley Reading Group

Quartet in Autumn by Barbara Pym

For more information, contact [Cheryl Cole](#), 310-422-5475.

Thursday, November 15

NEW GROUP: Janeites Reading Trollope

The Warden by Anthony Trollope

Location: West Los Angeles

For more information, contact [Lora Walker](#).

Saturday, November 17

Long Beach Reading Group

Jane Austen: A Life in Small Things by Paula Byrne, and *Jane Austen at Home* by Lucy Worsley

For more information, contact [Sherwood Smith](#).

Sunday, December 2, 2 p.m.

Riverside Reading Group

Sanditon: Jane Austen's Last Novel Completed and *The Making of Jane Austen* by Devoney Looser

Location: Mission Inn (high tea)

For more information and to make a reservation, contact [Vicki Broach](#) or [Amy Sausser](#).

Please note that the deadline for reservations is November 28.

Saturday, December 15, 1-3 p.m.

Westside/405 Reading Group

Of Moths and Butterflies by V.R. Christensen

Location: home of Syrie James

For more information, contact [Karen Berk](#), 310-477-6753.

San Diego Region

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, or to RSVP for, upcoming San Diego JASNA meetings, visit [JASNA San Diego's Facebook page](#).

Visit our website!



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