

HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

COVID-19 has affected us all, including the Hagiography Society. In this newsletter, you will see that some scholarly conferences have rolled over Hagiography Society sponsored sessions that could not take place this year to the following year. We will now award Maya Maskarinec's book prize, along with the prize for the next winner, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in May 2021. We are still accepting submissions for the prize for books published from June 2018 through December 2019; see below for more details. The pandemic has also led us to revise the launch of our new best article prize. The Society will be welcoming submissions for articles published during 2021 and 2022, so keep that in mind as you continue to publish articles and essays regarding saints and hagiography in the pre-modern period. Finally, please continue inviting your students and colleagues to become members of the Hagiography Society.

RSA AND KALAMAZOO 2021 SESSIONS

In light of the cancellations of their annual meetings due to COVID-19, both the Renaissance Society of America and the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University have offered the opportunity to roll over this year's sessions, and that remains the plan for the HS sponsored sessions. We appreciate the work of the participants, session

organizers, and our Programming Chair, Barbara Zimbalist for their joint efforts in creating the robust line-up of HS sponsored sessions.

ELECTIONS

The Hagiography Society will be holding its election for some of its officers in the fall and winter. The open positions are Communications Chair, Programming Chair, and Nominations Chair. Please look for the call for nominations in the fall and consider serving the Society. Any questions can be directed to the current Nominations Chair, Nikolas Hoel, n-hoel@neu.edu.

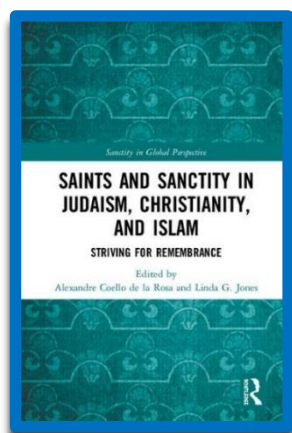
THE HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY BOOK PRIZE

The Hagiography Society is pleased to announce its next book prize competition. The prize will be awarded to a scholarly first book written on any disciplinary subject that makes an outstanding contribution to the study and understanding of saints, holy men and women, virtue traditions, or the concept of sanctity in ideational, literary, artistic, or sociohistorical dimensions in the pre-modern period. Books concerning all geographies and religious systems are eligible. The monetary value of the prize is \$500. The author of the book presented to the competition must be a member of the Hagiography Society by the time of the book's submission. Each year, the prize committee will consist of three scholars called upon by the Society to fulfill the task of awarding the

prize. The committee will not include anyone currently serving the Hagiography Society in an official capacity. The submission deadline for the prize is 30 June 2020 and the recipient of the prize will be announced mid-fall, 2020. All books that have been published from June 2018 through December 2019 are eligible for the prize. Please arrange for 3 copies of your book/manuscript to be sent to the President of the Hagiography Society: Catherine M. Mooney; 10 John A. Andrew Street; Jamaica Plain, MA 02130-2823; USA. E-mail: mooneyca@bc.edu

NEW BOOK IN HS SERIES: SANCTITY IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Alexandre Coello de la Rosa and Linda G. Jones, eds.,
Saints and Sanctity in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Striving for Remembrance, 2020.



A common objective of saint veneration in all three Abrahamic religions is the recovery and perpetuation of the collective memory of the saint. Christianity, Judaism, and Islam all yield intriguing similarities and differences in their respective conceptions of sanctity. This edited

collection explores the various literary and cultural productions associated with the cult of saints and pious figures, as well as the socio-historical contexts in which sainthood operates, in order to better understand the role of saints in monotheistic religions.

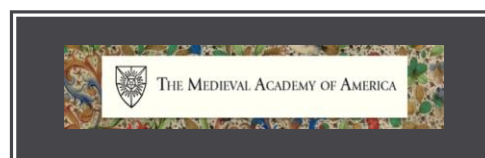
Using comparative religious and anthropological approaches, an international panel of contributors guides the reader through three main concerns. They describe and illuminate the ways in which sanctity is often configured. In addition, the diverse cultural manifestations of the cult of the saints are examined and analyzed. Finally, the various religious, social, and political functions that saints came to play in numerous societies are compared and contrasted.

This ambitious study covers sanctity from the Middle Ages until the contemporary period, and has a geographical scope that includes Europe, Central Asia, North Africa, the Americas, and the Asian Pacific. As such, it will be of use to scholars of the history of religions, religious pluralism, and interreligious dialogue, as well as students of sainthood and hagiography.

For details on submitting to the HS book series see:
<https://www.hagiographysociety.org/>.

CONGRATULATIONS

It is our pleasure to present here the achievements of our members. These accomplishments speak to the caliber of our members, and the vibrancy of hagiographic studies.



Katherine Ludwig Jansen (Catholic Univ. of America), **Yitzhak Hen** (Israel Institute for Advanced Studies), **Gabor Klaniczay** (Central European Univ.), and **Richard Sharpe** (Oxford Univ.), were elected as Corresponding Fellows of the Medieval Academy of America.

Lydia M. Walker, a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, was awarded the Medieval Academy of America's 2020 Olivia Remie Constable Award to support her project: "Holy Women on the Home Front: The Construction of Female Sanctity in the Context of Thirteenth-Century Crusading Propaganda."



Dyan Elliott, the Peter B. Ritzma Professor in the Humanities at the Department of History, Northwestern University, has been awarded a fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation. Her forthcoming book: *The Corrupter of Boys: Sodomy, Scandal, and the Medieval Clergy* will

be published with University of Pennsylvania Press this Fall.



Maya Maskarinec, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Southern California, has been awarded a 2020 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship for her new project, “Domesticating Saints in Medieval and Early Modern Rome.” Her recent book, *City of Saints: Rebuilding Rome in the Early Middle Ages* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018), was the winner of the Hagiography Society 2019 Book Prize.

Dawn Marie Hayes, Professor of Medieval European History at Montclair University received a 2019-2020 grant from the NEH's Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program for her digital project: “Documenting the Past, Triaging the Present and Assessing the Future: A Prototype for Sicily's Norman Heritage, ca. 1061-1194.” She also has a new book out: *Roger II of Sicily: Family, Faith and Empire in the Medieval Mediterranean World* (Brepols, 2020).

Mary Doyno, Assistant Professor in the Humanities and Religious Studies department at Sacramento State University, has received a CRIA fellowship from I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Renaissance Study and an NEH fellowship to conduct work on her new project: *Catherine's Daughters: Female Penitents, Thomas Caffarini, and the Creation of the Dominican Third Order*.

Julia Bolton Holloway, archivist and custodian of Florence's "English" Cemetery, was awarded the Nicholas Stenone medal in his chapel, in the Basilica of San Lorenzo, Florence for her ongoing work with the Roma people, including housing, alphabetization, employment, and human rights support.



Michelle M. Sauer, Professor of English & Gender Studies at University of North Dakota, received the Nicky B. Carpenter Fellowship in Manuscript Studies at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library, at St. John's University, Collegeville, MN.



Gil Ben-Herut, Associate Professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of South Florida, received the following awards for his book, *Siva's Saints: The Origins of Devotion in Kannada according to Harihara's Ragalegalu* (Oxford University Press, 2018): 2020 Best Book Award, Southeastern Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and 2019 Best First Book, Southeastern Medieval Association.

PROMOTIONS

Virginia Blanton was named a University of Missouri Curators' Distinguished Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.

Janine Larmon Peterson was promoted to full professor of History at Marist College (Poughkeepsie, NY). She recently published *Suspect Saints and Holy Heretics: Disputed Sanctity and Communal Identity in Late Medieval Italy* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019).

Alison More has been appointed the inaugural holder of the Comper Professorship in Medieval Studies at the University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, ON.

GIFTS TO THE H.S. IN 2020

As you pay your dues for the upcoming year, consider contributing to either our Reames graduate travel award, the book prize, article prize, or the general fund. Your generosity will ensure the HS's ability to continue these important initiatives in support of young scholars and all scholarship on hagiography.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Durham University, July 20-21, 2020, Digital Conference, Crossing Borders, Contesting Boundaries, 14th Annual MEMSA Conference.

Given the ongoing disruption, we are receptive to a range of formats, structures, and levels of polish! Please send abstracts of no more than 250 words for 10- to 20-minute video presentations to memsa.committee@durham.ac.uk Borders and boundaries divided the medieval and early modern world, both its physical space and its more intangible social hierarchies and networks. Theologically, socially, domestically, and diplomatically, the medieval and early modern world sought to define its edges in order to confirm its centres. Borders and boundaries helped construct and reinforce identities, creating a sense of belonging, safety, and security; but they also partitioned, segregated, and restricted both individual and group behaviour and activity. Thus borders and boundaries, once set, invited debate, defense, and defiance. Possible presentation themes may include:

- Travel, trade, and pilgrimage
- Cartography and exploration
- Frontier zones and border regions
- Rivalry, conflict, and diplomatic relations
- Social and domestic networks
- Gender norms and expectations
- Intellectual exchange
- Popular participation in politics
- Texts and paratext
- Religious schism and reform
- Legal jurisdiction and transgression

For more details see:

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/imems/memsa/events/conference/?eventno=42961>

Montréal, Canada, April 14-18 2021. Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Revisiting Pilgrimage Spaces in the Middle Ages
Session Chair: Kristine Tanton (kristine.tanton@umontreal.ca). During the Middle Ages, men and women of diverse social classes traveled from near and far to visit key pilgrimage sites such as the Holy Land, Rome, Santiago de Compostela, and Mecca. In addition to these famed destinations, local sites and saintly relics increasingly attracted large groups of

visitors, and were used as justification for sumptuous building projects. Because pilgrimage sites provide logical points of contact for the exchange of ideas, experiences and commerce, art and architectural historians developed a narrative that suggests there was a particular architectural form with specific features in order to make it easy for visitors to navigate the space. As a result, studies have traditionally focused on a specific church, mosque or shrine, often neglecting the numerous buildings and infrastructure necessary to receive large groups of visitors (e.g. inns, bridges, and roads). The proposed session seeks to extend traditional inquiry to consider the varied design solutions employed in the Middle Ages to accommodate the diverse uses of pilgrimage spaces. Session proposals may consider questions such as: How do pilgrimage sites accommodate large and diverse groups of visitors, while also serving a local community? Are there more fruitful ways to discuss medieval pilgrimage and its architectural solutions? Can new approaches to data and visualization aid in analysis of the diversity of buildings both along established pilgrimage routes as well as less well-known destinations? How can the consideration of landscape or topography change or enhance our understanding of pilgrimage spaces? How can we integrate discussion of the numerous buildings and infrastructure necessary to receive pilgrims when so few examples survive? The session welcomes papers on subjects from Latin, Byzantine, and Islamic contexts. Proposals are due by **June 3, 2020**. <https://www.sah.org/2021/call-for-papers?zs=fojhX&zl=RL732>

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have a new book specifically related to holy figures or hagiography that you would like to see featured here and announced on our social media accounts please email HS Communications Chair, Lydia Walker, at lydia.walker@utoronto.ca.

Beresford, Andrew M. *Sacred Skin: The Legend of St. Bartholomew in Spanish Art and Literature*. Boston, MA: Brill, 2020.

Caxton's Golden Legend, vol. I, *Temporale*. Ed. Mayumi Taguchi, John Scahill, and Satoko Tokunaga. Early English Text Society o.s. 355. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Forthcoming in July 2020.

Doyno, Mary Harvey. *The Lay Saint: Charity and Charismatic Authority in Medieval Italy, 1150-1350*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Press, 2019.

Espín, Oliva M. *Women, Sainthood, and Power: A Feminist Psychology of Cultural Constructions*. Lanham, MD, Lexington Books, 2019.

The Hagiographical Experiment: Developing Discourses of Sainthood. Eds. Christa Gray and James Corke-Webster. Boston, MA: Brill, 2020.

Hagiography and the History of Latin Christendom, 500–1500. Ed. Samantha Kahn Herrick. Boston, MA: Brill, 2019.

Kalas, Laura. *Margery Kempe's Spiritual Medicine: Suffering, Transformation and the Life-Course*. Rochester, NY: D.S. Brewer, 2020.

Life and Cult of Cnut the Holy: The First Royal Saint of Denmark. Eds. Steffen Hope, Mikael Manøe Bjerregaard, Anne Hedeager Krag, and Mads Runge. Odense: University Press of Southern Denmark, 2019.

Miles, Laura Saetveit. *The Virgin Mary's Book at the Annunciation: Reading, Interpretation, and Devotion in Medieval England*. Rochester, NY: D.S. Brewer, 2020.

The Prayed Francis: Liturgical Vitae and Franciscan Identity in the Thirteenth Century. Eds. Marco Bartoli, Jacques Dalarun, Timothy J. Johnson, and Filippo Sedda. Saint Bonaventure: Franciscan Institute Publications, 2019.

Regional Communities of Devotion in South Asia: Insiders, Outsiders, and Interlopers. Eds. Gil Ben-Herut, Jon Keune, and Anne E. Monius. New York, NY: Routledge, 2019.

Rowe, Erin Kathleen. *Black Saints in Early Modern Global Catholicism*. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press, 2019.

Spacey, Beth C. *The Miraculous and the Writing of Crusade Narrative*. Rochester, NY: D.S. Brewer, 2020.

Van Deusen, N. M. *The Saga of the Sister Saints: The Legend of Martha and Mary Magdalen in Old Norse-Icelandic Translation*. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2019.

Women Intellectuals and Leaders in the Middle Ages. Eds. Kathryn Kerby-Fulton, Katie Ann-Marie Bugyis, and John Van Engen. Rochester, NY: D.S. Brewer, 2020.

HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY OFFICERS & ASSISTANTS

President: Catherine M. Mooney
Secretary-Treasurer: Amy Ogden
Communications: Lydia Walker
Programming: Barbara Zimbalist
Nominations: Nikolas Hoel
Social Media Assistant: Stephanie Grace Petinos
Webmaster: Joe Hayes

<https://www.hagiographysociety.org/>