

GRATEFUL DEAD STUDIES ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL MEETING

program

2021

welcome

Dear Members,

Welcome to the first annual meeting of the Grateful Dead Studies Association! This event inaugurates one of our primary efforts, which is to host conferences for scholars to participate in the academic discourse on the Grateful Dead phenomenon. We are grateful to the Popular Culture Association for sponsoring a Grateful Dead area, which offers the Association the opportunity to present its work on an international stage, and we extend particular thanks to Lynn Bartholome, PCA Executive Director, and David Silverman, Vice President for Area Chairs, for their assistance.

We're delighted to have a strong roster of presentations, with 26 papers in 11 sessions and two roundtable discussions spanning more than 17 disciplines and fields. The 34 presenters come from 15 states across the U.S. and three other countries.

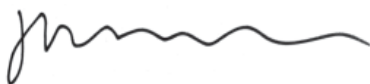
This program provides a schedule for the Grateful Dead sessions to help participants and members navigate the larger conference and also lists our own Association business meeting, which will be held on Friday after the last session. Our Proceedings, published later this year, will provide a final record of the conference, documenting any last-minute changes that may occur along with abstracts, presenter biographies, and more. Members receive a copy of the Proceedings, and the contents will be made available online.

Our meeting coincides with two fiftieth anniversaries: the band's inauguration of the Dead Heads mailing list, which cemented a core of the Grateful Dead phenomenon, and the first Popular Culture Association conference. Those make it especially appropriate for us to meet at the PCA, given its roots in the cultural ferment and era that birthed the Grateful Dead as well as its pioneering approach to the study of so many of the contexts that inform the Dead's work. Ray Browne, the cofounder of the PCA, suggested the creation of a Grateful Dead area at the PCA in 2000, and continued to advocate for its establishment over the years. We are proud to have fulfilled his vision at last, and regret that he did not see it come to pass.

This meeting is the culmination of two years of work by the Executive Council, our Board of Advisors, and our donors and volunteers, who believed in the mission of the Association and made its vision a reality. We thank them for their faith and effort, and we especially thank the presenters for their hard work to make this first conference meeting a success. While we regret that COVID-19 prevented us from meeting in Boston, as we had planned, we're grateful to our presenters and members for their patience and flexibility.

Welcome! We look forward to seeing everyone online.

Sincerely,



Nicholas G. Meriwether
President

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Note: All times are Eastern Standard Time.

Session 1: Image, Images, and Transition in the Grateful Dead

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (11:00 am–12:20 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Nicholas G. Meriwether, Center for Counterculture Studies

Dennis Rothermel, California State University–Chico, *ret.*

“‘Throwing Stones’ and Bertolt Brecht’s *War Primer*.”

Peter Lavezzoli, Independent Scholar

“‘The Nights of Goodbye’: The Final Voyage of the Grateful Dead.”

Nicholas G. Meriwether, Center for Counterculture Studies

“The Grateful Dead and the Private Woodstock.”

Session 2: Silence, Loss, and the Hidden Aspects of the Grateful Dead

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (12:30–1:50 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Natalie Dollar, Oregon State University–Cascades

Ulf Erik Olsson, Stockholm University

“Dead Silence: Waiting for the Grateful Dead.”

Octavius Longcroft-Wheaton, University of Surrey

“Hidden Structure: A Method for Approaching the Analysis of the Grateful Dead’s Music.”

Natalie Dollar, Oregon State University–Cascades

Mary Goodenough, Independent Scholar

“Continuing to Influence: The Grateful Dead and the Loss of Live Concerts.”

Session 3: The Politics of the Grateful Dead

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (2:00–3:20 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Melvin James Backstrom, McGill University

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“Political Interpretations of the Grateful Dead.”

day one

Andrew R. McGaan, Kirkland & Ellis LLP

“Find Your Own Way Home: The Apolitical Grateful Dead.”

Rhoney Stanley, Independent Scholar

“The Grateful Dead and Politics.”

Session 4: Deadhead Identity and the Grateful Dead Experience

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (3:30–4:50 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Matthew Christopher Armstrong, University of North Carolina–Greensboro

Granville Ganter, St. John’s University

“Learning About the Dead: the Role of Secondary and College Education in Shaping Grateful Dead Experience.”

Steven Gimbel, Gettysburg College

“Social Progress, Whiteness, and the Moral Imagination in the 1980s Dead Scene.”

Matthew Christopher Armstrong, University of North Carolina–Greensboro

“Playing Dead in the South: An Autoethnography of a Head, a Scholar, and a Songwriter.”

Session 5: From the Grateful Dead to Cyberspace: The Legacy of John Perry Barlow

Wednesday, June 2, 2021 (5:00–6:20 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Susan Balter-Reitz, Montana State University–Billings

Donald A. Fishman, Boston College

“First Mover Advantage Re-Examined: John Perry Barlow and the Rhetorical Vision of Cyberspace.”

Susan Balter-Reitz, Montana State University–Billings

“Mindspace: John Perry Barlow’s Universal Audience in Cyberspace.”

Joseph A. Tomain, Indiana University

“The ‘Virus of Liberty’: Connecting Legal Scholarship on John Perry Barlow and Non-Legal Scholarship in Grateful Dead Studies.”

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

Session 6: Roundtable: What Does Psychedelic Music Sound Like?

Thursday, June 3, 2021 (12:30–1:50 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Brian Felix, University of North Carolina–Asheville

Panelists:

Graeme M. Boone, Ohio State University

Shaughn O'Donnell, City College, CUNY

Brent Wood, University of Toronto–Mississauga

Session 7: The Dawn of the Dead, from the Warlocks to the Acid Tests

Thursday, June 3, 2021 (2:00–3:20 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Jay Williams, University of Chicago Press, *ret.*

Michael Dolgushkin, California State Library

“The Warlocks’ Early Repertoire.”

Eduardo Duarte, Hofstra University

“Driving that Trane: How the Warlocks Became the Grateful Dead.”

Jay Williams, University of Chicago Press, *ret.*

“The Sound City Acid Test as Context for the Grateful Dead’s First Album.”

Session 8: Memory, Mysticism, and Memoir in the Grateful Dead Phenomenon

Thursday, June 3, 2021 (3:30–4:50 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Deepak Sarma, Case Western Reserve University

Teddy Hamstra, University of Southern California

“Mickey Hart’s *Drumming at the Edge of Magic*: Joseph Campbell, Multimedia Ritual, and the Multisensorial Enchantment of Sounded Caves.”

Adam Brown, New School for Social Research

“‘All the Years Combine, They Melt Into a Dream’: Conceptualizing the Long-Term Sustainability of Deadhead Engagement through Cognitive Constructs of Autobiographical Memory and Self-Identity.”

day three

Deepak Sarma, Case Western Reserve University

“‘The Transitive Nightfall of Diamonds’: The Grateful Dead and Common Core Thesis.”

Session 9: The World of the Grateful Dead’s Lyrics

Thursday, June 3, 2021 (5:00–6:20 pm) *Chowder*

Chair: Nathaniel R. Racine, Texas A&M International University

Daniel Pinti, Niagara University

“Play It Forward: Allusion, Improvisation, and the Lyrics of Robert Hunter.”

Nathaniel R. Racine, Texas A&M International University

“Facing East from California’s Shores: Locating the 1960s through the Lyrics of the Grateful Dead.”

Note: This panel had a last-minute cancellation.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Session 10: The Business of the Grateful Dead

Friday, June 4, 2021 (11:00 am–12:20 pm) *Fluffernutter*

Chair: John Brackett, Vance-Granville Community College

Jeff Aulgur, Arkansas Tech University

“The Reluctant Emperor: The Grateful Dead and Adaptive Leadership 1972–1974.”

John Brackett, Vance-Granville Community College

“The Dead on Broadway”: Marketing the Grateful Dead at the Dawn of the 1980s.”

Barry Barnes, Nova Southeastern University, *ret.*

“Life Beyond the Dead: Leadership, Branding, and the Business Legacy of the Post-Garcia Grateful Dead.”

day three

Session 11: Roundtable: Looking Back on Fare Thee Well

Friday, June 4, 2021 (12:30–1:50 pm) *Fluffernutter*

Chair: Jordan McClain, Independent Scholar

Panelists:

Ariella Werden-Greenfield, Temple University

Isaac Slone, Contemporary Freudian Society

Grateful Dead Studies Association Meeting

Friday, June 4, 2021 (2:15–3:15 pm) *GDSA Zoom Meeting*

Welcome

Council Reports

Conference Report | G. Ganter, President–Elect

Projects Report | Kurt Torell, Vice President

Financial Report | Beth Carroll, Treasurer

Membership Report | Jan Wright, Secretary

Keynote Speech

“‘Honest to the Point of Recklessness’: Talking About the Grateful Dead.”

Nicholas G. Meriwether, President

CREDITS

Cover: The Grateful Dead in Concert, 1991. © Bill Smythe, all rights reserved. CFP: Cornelis Norbertus Gijsbrechts, Vanitas Still Life (ca. 1667–1668). Museum of Fine Art, Boston, Acc. No. 58.357.

presenters

Armstrong, Matthew Christopher | University of North Carolina–Greensboro
Aulgur, Jeff | Arkansas Tech University
Backstrom, Melvin James | McGill University
Balter-Reitz, Susan | Montana State University–Billings
Barnes, Barry | Nova Southeastern University, *ret.*
Boone, Graeme M. | Ohio State University
Brackett, John | Vance-Granville Community College
Brown, Adam | New School for Social Research
Dolgushkin, Michael | California State Library
Dollar, Natalie | Oregon State University–Cascades
Duarte, Eduardo | Hofstra University
Felix, Brian | University of North Carolina–Asheville
Fishman, Donald A. | Boston College
Ganter, Granville | St. John’s University
Gimbel, Steven | Gettysburg College
Goodenough, Mary | Independent Scholar
Hamstra, Teddy | University of Southern California
Lavezzoli, Peter | Independent Scholar
Longcroft-Wheaton, Octavius | University of Surrey
McClain, Jordan | Independent Scholar
McGaan, Andrew R. | Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Meriwether, Nicholas G. | Center for Counterculture Studies
O’Donnell, Shaugn | City College, CUNY
Olsson, Ulf Erik | Stockholm University
Pinti, Daniel | Niagara University
Racine, Nathaniel R. | Texas A&M International University
Rothermel, Dennis | California State University–Chico, *ret.*
Sarma, Deepak | Case Western Reserve University
Slone, Isaac | Contemporary Freudian Society
Stanley, Rhoney | Independent Scholar
Tomain, Joseph A. | Indiana University
Werden-Greenfield, Ariella | Temple University
Williams, Jay | University of Chicago Press, *ret.*
Wood, Brent | University of Toronto–Mississauga



Call For Papers

GRATEFUL DEAD STUDIES Volume 5
PROCEEDINGS *of the Grateful Dead Studies Association* Volume 1

Essays and reviews for *Grateful Dead Studies* due September 1. *Publication: Spring, 2022.*

Conference papers for *Proceedings* due August 15. *Publication: Winter, 2021.*

Submission information and guidelines: www.gratefuldeadstudies.org

Questions and submissions: info@deadstudies.org

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