

2026 Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife

Futurecasting, Futurekeeping: New Englanders Imagine Worlds to Come

Friday, June 26

10 a.m.–12 p.m. (Optional Morning Activity)

Tours at Bellamy House and remarks from the Director, Chicopee Falls, MA (Pre-registration is required: \$12.00 per person)

12–1 p.m. Lunch on your own

12 p.m. **Registration** opens at Historic Deerfield

1:20 p.m. Virtual sign-in opens for online attendees

1:30 p.m. **Welcome**

Marla Miller, Distinguished Professor of History, UMass Amherst, and President, Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife

1:45–3:15 p.m. **Panel 1: Planned Communities**

Moderator: Christian Goodwillie, Director and Curator of Special Collections, Hamilton College, Burke Library

Carl Guarneri, Professor Emeritus of History, Saint Mary's College of California, and Research Scholar, Colgate University; “Brook Farm: Boston “Combined Households,” and the Utopian Origins of Urban Communal Housing, 1846-1851”

CJ Martin, Visiting Assistant Professor, College of the Holy Cross; “Black Millerites”

Diana Lempel, Scholar/Practitioner of Folk History; “The Blessing of the Attic—Cambridge Co-operative Housekeeping Society and Family Memory Keeping”

3:15–3:30 p.m. Break with refreshments

3:30 p.m. ***Tribute to Founders***

3:45–5 p.m. ***Futurecasting: A Roundtable on the Past, Present, and Future of New England Studies*** (Sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Public History Program and Historic Northampton)

Moderator: J. Ritchie Garrison, Professor Emeritus, Department of History, University of Delaware

Emelie Gevalt, Deputy Director and Chief Curatorial and Program Officer, American Folk Art Museum

Thomas A. Guiler, Director of Museum Affairs, Oneida Community Mansion House

Philippe Halbert, Curator of Decorative Arts and Design, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

5–6:45 p.m. **Reception: Celebrating the Dublin Seminar at Fifty** (Sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society and the Boston University Program in American Studies)

Following the Futurecasting Roundtable, please join us for a celebratory reception marking the 50th anniversary of the Dublin Seminar at Champney House at 5 p.m. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and assorted beverages in the company of the Dublin Seminar membership and your colleagues for this festive occasion. (Pre-registration for this special reception is \$25.00.)

7–8 p.m. **Keynote Address**

Holly Jackson, Chair of American Studies and Professor of English, University of Massachusetts, Boston; “The Ends of the World in Antebellum New England”

Saturday, June 27

8:30 a.m. Deerfield Community Center opens. In-person attendees may pick up name badges and information packets. Refreshments available.

8:50 a.m. Virtual sign-in for online attendees

9–10:30 a.m. **Panel 2: Imagined Futures in Literature**

Moderator: Barbara Matthews, Independent Historical Consultant

Megan Pickett, The Winchendon School; “‘...where to go next’: Utopian Immediacy in *Total Loss Farm*”

Ella Koston, PhD student at Boston University’s, American Studies Program; “Afrofuturist Vision—Pauline Hopkins”

10:30–10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. **Panel 3: Imagined Futures in Material Culture**

Moderator: Erika Gasser, Director of Academic Programs, Historic Deerfield

Elizabeth Eager, Assistant Professor, Southern Methodist University; “Futurity imagined through Women’s Needlework”

Victoria Kenyon, Curatorial Track doctoral candidate, Art History, University of Delaware; “Magical Flowers: Fortune-Telling Objects from New England”

Brece Honeycutt, Independent Scholar/Multimedia Artist; “building Harmony / constructing Color”

12:15–1:45 p.m. Lunch (buffet provided at the Deerfield Inn)

1:45–3:15 p.m. **Panel 4: *Limits of Progressivism: Sexual Politics***

Moderator: Erica Lome, Curator of Collections, Historic New England

Hunter Moskowitz, Researcher at American Ancestors, Boston; “Factory as Utopia: Imaginations of Sexuality in Early Lowell”

Catherine Terelak, Interpreter at Historic New England’s Beauport, the Sleeper-McCann House; “An Intentional Community: Gloucester’s Dabsville”

Stephen Paterwic, Trustee of the Shaker Library and Museum, Sabbathday Lake, Maine; “Shakers and the Second Gathering”

3:15–3:30 p.m. Break

3:30–5 p.m. **Panel 5: *Forecasting Future Ecologies***

Moderator: Nan Wolverton, Vice President for Academic and Public Programs, American Antiquarian Society

Meghan Freeman, Fellowship and Internship Program Director, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University; “Bird Day, Now and Forever: Mabel Osgood Wright and the Future of New England Bird-Life”

Li-hsin Hsu, Professor of English, National Chengchi University, Taiwan; “Silk culture, Utopian Experiment, and Anthropocene Imagination in Mid-Nineteenth-Century New England”

Dan McKanan, Emerson Senior Lecturer, Harvard Divinity School; “Imagining the Future Forest”

5 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

John Davis, President, Historic Deerfield, Inc.