

**MLA AWARDS PRIZE FOR A SCHOLARLY EDITION TO HEATHER CASS WHITE
FOR *NEW COLLECTED POEMS: MARIANNE MOORE* AND TO RONALD
SCHUCHARD, IMAN JAVADI, JAYME STAYER, AND DAVID E. CHINITZ FOR
VOLUMES 5 AND 6 OF *THE COMPLETE PROSE OF T. S. ELIOT: THE CRITICAL
EDITION***

New York, NY – 4 December 2019 – The Modern Language Association of America has announced the winners of the thirteenth Modern Language Association Prize for a Scholarly Edition. The prize will be presented to Heather Cass White, of the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, for *New Collected Poems: Marianne Moore*, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and to Ronald Schuchard, emeritus, of Emory University; Iman Javadi, of Cambridge, United Kingdom; and Jayme Stayer, of Loyola University, Chicago, for *Tradition and Orthodoxy, 1934–1939*, and Schuchard and David E. Chinitz, of Loyola University, Chicago, for *The War Years, 1940–1946*, volumes 5 and 6 of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot: The Critical Edition*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Awarded each odd-numbered year since 1995, the prize is one of eighteen awards that will be presented on 11 January 2020, during the association’s annual convention, to be held in Seattle. The members of the selection committee were Lars Engle (Univ. of Tulsa); Margaret J. M. Ezell (Texas A&M Univ., College Station), chair; and James Gifford (Fairleigh Dickinson Univ., Vancouver). The committee’s citation for White reads:

Heather Cass White’s *New Collected Poems: Marianne Moore* offers readers an elegant edition that, through its excellent annotation, extensive use of Moore’s own notes, and substantial appendix, permits readers to explore a significant, controversial textual issue. In an introduction accessible to multiple levels of readers, White lucidly presents Moore’s career and argues effectively for an edition that presents her poems as they were first published. White’s apparatus then shows how Moore revised early poems—and sometimes suppressed them—during her long life as a poet.

Heather Cass White is professor of English at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. She received her PhD and MA from Cornell University and her BA from Yale University. She is the editor of two previous collections of Marianne Moore’s work: *A-Quiver with Significance: Marianne Moore, 1932–1936*, and *Adversity and Grace: Marianne Moore, 1926–1941*, both from ELS Editions. Her articles have appeared in journals such as *Journal of Modern Literature* and *Twentieth Century Literature*, and are forthcoming in *Transatlantica* and *Glossator*. White is currently finishing a book on the pleasures of reading.

The committee’s citation for *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot* reads:

Part of a long-running, multivolume, digital collaborative edition, volumes 5 and 6 of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot: The Critical Edition* display uniform editorial excellence. Their thorough contextual introductions, sophisticated annotations merging intelligent commentary with brevity and completeness, and superb indexes make the volumes a pleasure to read and to use. Together they present new materials, open doors to further discovery, and enlarge our understanding of Eliot as the public intellectual at work.

David E. Chinitz, professor and chair of the Department of English at Loyola University, Chicago, is the author of *Which Sin to Bear? Authenticity and Compromise in Langston Hughes* and *T. S. Eliot and the Cultural Divide*. He edited the *Blackwell Companion to T. S. Eliot* and coedited, with Gail McDonald, the *Blackwell Companion to Modernist Poetry*. Chinitz served as president of the Modernist Studies Association in 2014 and as president of the International T. S. Eliot Society from 2010 to 2012. With Pamela Caughie, he codirects *Modernist Networks*, the federation and aggregation site for digital projects in modernist studies.

Iman Javadi wrote his dissertation on T. S. Eliot and Dante at the University of Cambridge and has a particular interest in comparative literature (Italian, German, and French). He has published articles on plurilingualism in *Eliot and Dante*, on Eliot's reception in Germany, and on Dante's *De vulgari eloquentia*. He is also coeditor of volume 7 of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot: The Critical Edition*.

Ronald Schuchard is Goodrich C. White Professor of English Emeritus at Emory University and general editor of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot*. He has edited T. S. Eliot's Clark and Turnbull lectures as *The Varieties of Metaphysical Poetry*. His *Eliot's Dark Angel: Intersections of Life and Art* won the Robert Penn Warren–Cleanth Brooks Award for Outstanding Literary Criticism and his *The Last Minstrels: Yeats and the Revival of the Bardic Arts* won the Robert Rhodes Prize for Irish Studies and was cowinner of the Modernist Studies Association Book Prize. He is the coeditor of volumes 3, 4, and 5 of *The Collected Letters of W. B. Yeats*, volume 4 of which won the MLA's Morton N. Cohen Award for a Distinguished Edition of Letters. His volume 2 of *The Complete Prose of T. S. Eliot: The Critical Edition* received the Modernist Studies Association Book Prize for an Edition. Schuchard is a former NEH, ACLS, Fulbright, and Guggenheim fellow and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Jayne Stayer is associate professor of English at Loyola University, Chicago. He holds a double degree in music and literature from the University of Notre Dame, an MA and a PhD in English literature from the University of Toledo, and an MDiv from Boston College. He has held faculty posts at Texas A&M University, Commerce; Universidad Centroamericana in El Salvador; and John Carroll University. Stayer is the coauthor of *Think About It: Critical Skills for Academic Writing* and editor of *T. S. Eliot, France, and the Mind of Europe*. His forthcoming book project is entitled *Becoming T. S. Eliot: The Rhetoric of Voice and Audience in "Inventions of the March Hare."* He currently serves as president of the International T. S. Eliot Society. Stayer has performed with the choruses of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, and the Cleveland Orchestra. He joined the Jesuits (The Society of Jesus) in 2003 and was ordained a priest in 2013.

The Modern Language Association of America and its over 25,000 members in 100 countries work to strengthen the study and teaching of languages and literature. Founded in 1883, the MLA provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. The MLA sustains one of the finest publication programs in the humanities, producing a variety of publications for language and literature professionals and for the general public. The association publishes the *MLA International Bibliography*, the only comprehensive bibliography in language and literature, available online. The MLA Annual Convention features meetings on a wide variety of subjects;

the 2020 convention in Seattle is expected to draw over 5,000 attendees. More information on MLA programs is available at www.mla.org.

The MLA Prize for a Scholarly Edition was established by the MLA Executive Council in 1994 in response to a proposal from the association's Committee on Scholarly Editions, and the inaugural prize was presented in 1995. Recent recipients include Gary Taylor and John Lavagnino; Janel Mueller and Joshua Scodel; Thomas J. Heffernan; Elizabeth Goldring, Faith Eales, Elizabeth Clarke, and Jayne Elisabeth Archer; and Cristanne Miller and Gary A. Stringer.

The MLA Prize for a Scholarly Edition is awarded under the auspices of the MLA's Committee on Honors and Awards. Other awards sponsored by the committee are the William Riley Parker Prize; the James Russell Lowell Prize; the MLA Prize for a First Book; the Howard R. Marraro Prize; the Kenneth W. Mildener Prize; the Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize; the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars; the Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize; the Morton N. Cohen Award; the MLA Prize for Collaborative, Bibliographical, or Archival Scholarship; the Lois Roth Award; the William Sanders Scarborough Prize; the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies; the MLA Prize in United States Latina and Latino and Chicana and Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies; the MLA Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures, and Languages; the Matei Calinescu Prize; the MLA Prize for an Edited Collection; the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Comparative Literary Studies, for French and Francophone Studies, for Italian Studies, for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures, for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures, for a Translation of a Literary Work, for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature; and the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies.