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Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

News & Notes

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Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

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scandinavianstudy.org



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Be a part of SASS!

EXISTING MEMBERS

Already have a membership that needs renewal? Not sure when your renewal date is? Sign into your SASS account at the link below!
If have not signed in before, you will need to select the "Request Password" button to create a log-in.

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/member-log-in/#myaccount>

NEW MEMBERS

Visit <https://scandinavianstudy.org/new-member-sign-up/#join> to join

MEMBERSHIP TIERS

Sponsor, Sustaining, and + memberships include a physical copy of *Scandinavian Studies*, our quarterly journal



- Sponsor.....\$400
- Sustaining\$200
- Standard+\$150
- Standard.....\$130
- Student+\$70
- Student\$50
- Limited Resource+\$100
- Limited Resource\$80

QUESTIONS? Email Kimberly at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org



A Message from the Executive Director

Kimberly La Palm | exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org

Greetings from an increasingly autumnal Cedar Rapids!

October was a very productive month at SASS HQ. I spent a week in Washington, D.C. and New York City, where I represented SASS at the annual ASTRA conference and paired it with a series of networking and fundraising meetings. During the trip, I met with representatives from all of the Nordic embassies and several Nordic consulates in New York, as well as leaders from SACCNYS, SWEA New York, and other Nordic-American organizations.

The focus of these meetings was to reestablish and strengthen SASS's relationships with our Nordic partners—conversations that opened exciting possibilities for sponsorships, in-kind partnerships, and collaborative programming tied to SASS 2026: Brooklyn. The embassies and chambers expressed strong interest in participating, viewing the conference as an opportunity to highlight Nordic values of education, collaboration, and innovation while supporting the next generation of scholars in our field.

I have also been in close contact with staff at Scandinavia House, where—thanks to the generous support of the American Scandinavian Foundation—our Thursday evening keynote and reception will take place, along with a pre-conference professional development event designed to connect graduate students and early-career scholars with Nordic-oriented businesses, consulates, and cultural institutions. The venue will provide an elegant bridge between the academic sessions at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge and the public-facing events in Manhattan.

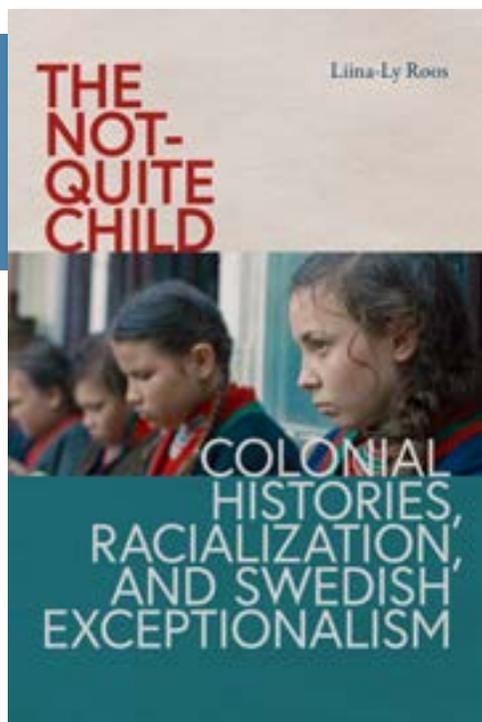
I returned from this trip deeply motivated and energized by the many possibilities on the horizon for SASS. The meetings generated momentum on all fronts—programmatic, financial, and collaborative—and underscored the growing enthusiasm among our Nordic partners for the 2026 conference. As planning continues, I look forward to sharing updates as these partnerships evolve and to transforming these conversations into tangible support for SASS 2026 and for the continued growth of Scandinavian studies in North America.

I'm very excited to share more developments with you in the coming months—and, as always, please feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or suggestions you may have!

Kimberly

Kimberly La Palm | SASS Executive Director

BOOKTALK



November 20, 2025
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM CST

The Not-Quite Child: Colonial Histories, Racialization, and Swedish Exceptionalism

Join SASS President Olivia Noble Gunn for an in-depth conversation with scholar and author Liina-Ly Roos as they discuss her recent publication, *The Not-Quite Child: Colonial Histories, Racialization, and Swedish Exceptionalism*. This dialogue will explore the book's critical examination of Nordic identity, postcolonial theory, and the complexities of racialization in the Swedish context.



Liina-Ly Roos

Questions?

Email sassbooktalk@scandinavianstudy.org

Event is free for all SASS members.

Registration required. Click here to register:

<https://form.jotform.com/252576067660160>



As a non-profit membership organization, SASS relies on the generosity of members and supporters whose contributions make our work possible. Guided by the SASS 2028 Strategic Plan, the Fundraising Committee has identified key goals and established dedicated funds to advance them. Together, we can make these initiatives a reality through the following funds:

ANNUAL FUND

Your gift to the Annual Fund keeps SASS strong. It sustains programs like book talks, connects members through News & Notes, and supports the publication of Scandinavian Studies. With a yearly goal of \$50,000, every contribution—no matter the size—helps us grow and serve our community.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT

Graduate students are the future of our field. Your gift helps reduce financial barriers by covering conference fees, accommodations, and awards like the Aurora Borealis. With a goal of raising \$100,000 by SASS 2028, every contribution brings us closer to ensuring lasting support for emerging scholars.

SASS 2026 BROOKLYN

The SASS annual conference is the highlight of our year—and we work hard to keep registration costs low. Your gift helps subsidize expenses, support new sponsorship opportunities, and grow our exhibitor hall. Contributions to SASS 2026: Brooklyn directly sustain this cornerstone event.

We accept donations via:

Stripe: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/about-us/support-us/>

Venmo: <https://venmo.com/u/scandstudy>

Check: email exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org for details

Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Nils William and Dagmar Olsson Research Grant

The Swedish-American Historical Society invites applications for the Nils William and Dagmar Olsson Research Grant, a \$1,000 award supporting research on Swedish-American topics both historical and current. The scope of research may include scholarship that advances the understanding of transatlantic relations through the Swedish migration experience as well as the ongoing relationship between the United States and Sweden. Comparative topics related to migration, ethnicity, cultural studies, and political relations are also welcome. The Society particularly invites applications from community members and emergent scholars (early-career faculty and graduate students).

Applicants should submit to the Swedish-American Historical Society office (info@swedishamericanhist.org) the following materials, by 1 February 2026:

- A 500-1,000 word proposal including description of main research question, its salience to the field of Swedish-American studies, planned resources, an approximate time frame needed to carry out the research, and explanation of how the award will aid in the research process
- An itemized estimate of research expenses
- A current Curriculum Vitae



Applications will be evaluated on the basis of potential contribution to Swedish-American studies, feasibility, and qualifications of the applicant to successfully complete the work. Projects should use the funds by 31 December 2027.

For more information: <https://www.swedishamericanhist.org/research>

Norwegian Visiting Lectureship

Deadline: January 1, 2026



The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is pleased to announce its 26th annual competition for the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship. The award is for one semester and is open to disciplines with a contemporary focus on Public Policy, Conflict Resolution, Environmental Studies, Multiculturalism, or Healthcare.

The ASF Norwegian Visiting Lecturer receives a \$20,000 teaching and research stipend along with an additional \$5,000 travel stipend for lecture appearances outside the host institution.

For more information: For further information and to begin an online application, visit <https://www.amscan.org/fellowships-grants/visiting-lectureships>

Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

Now Hiring: Special Projects Coordinator (Project-Based Contract)

SASS is building a roster of detail-oriented, creative Special Projects Coordinators to support key initiatives that keep SASS running smoothly. This is a project-based contract opportunity. Candidates will be offered projects on a rolling basis based on organizational needs and their areas of expertise. Contractors may accept or decline individual assignments.

Projects may include coordinating communications, tracking data and deadlines, assisting with fundraising and sponsorship outreach, supporting event logistics, and other administrative or strategic initiatives. Ideal candidates are organized, proactive, and comfortable working independently in a fully remote environment.

This opportunity is flexible and fully remote. Workloads vary by project and contractors set their own schedules within agreed-upon deadlines.

To apply, email a brief cover letter and résumé to exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org.

Compensation: \$20/hour

Term: Ongoing. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Application review will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.



We Want to Hear from You!

Have questions or concerns about accessibility at SASS events or within the organization? We want to hear from you! Please reach out

to Todd Michelson-Ambelang at accessibility@scandinavianstudy.org to share feedback, request accommodations, or discuss ways we can make SASS more inclusive and accessible to all members.

Share Your Research

Have new work on Nordic language, literature, history, or culture? Submit it to Scandinavian Studies, the quarterly journal of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS).

Founded in 1911, Scandinavian Studies is the oldest journal in the field and a leading venue for innovative scholarship—from Old Norse and folklore to modern literature, film, and transnational studies. Join a community of scholars shaping the future of Scandinavian research.

Find more info here: <https://sca.uwpress.org/content/authors>

Questions: editor@scandinavianstudy.org

Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

SASS Seeking Book Talk Nominations

The Executive Council seeks nominations for upcoming books to highlight with our bi-annual book talk. Nominations should be new or upcoming releases in the field of Scandinavian Studies. The author will, ideally, be a member in good standing of SASS. Nominations will be accepted from any SASS member, including the author themselves. Please email the author's name, contact information, book title, and a brief (200 word) description of the text to sassbooktalk@scandinavianstudy.org. Nominations will be accepted on a rolling basis.



Join us for our next Book Talks! See page 5!

For more information, visit: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/sass-book-talk>



Have something to share with the SASS members?

Please send announcements and suggestions to newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org. If approved before the last day of the month, announcements will appear in the next month's issue. Please indicate if you would also like your announcement to appear on scandinavianstudy.org

In the Next Issue

150 Years of Scandinavian Studies, Getting Around New York, Pre-conference Events, SASS 2026: Brooklyn Registration and more!



New Publications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

Thomasine Gyllembourg's *Two Ages: A Novella*

Author: Thomasine Gyllembourg

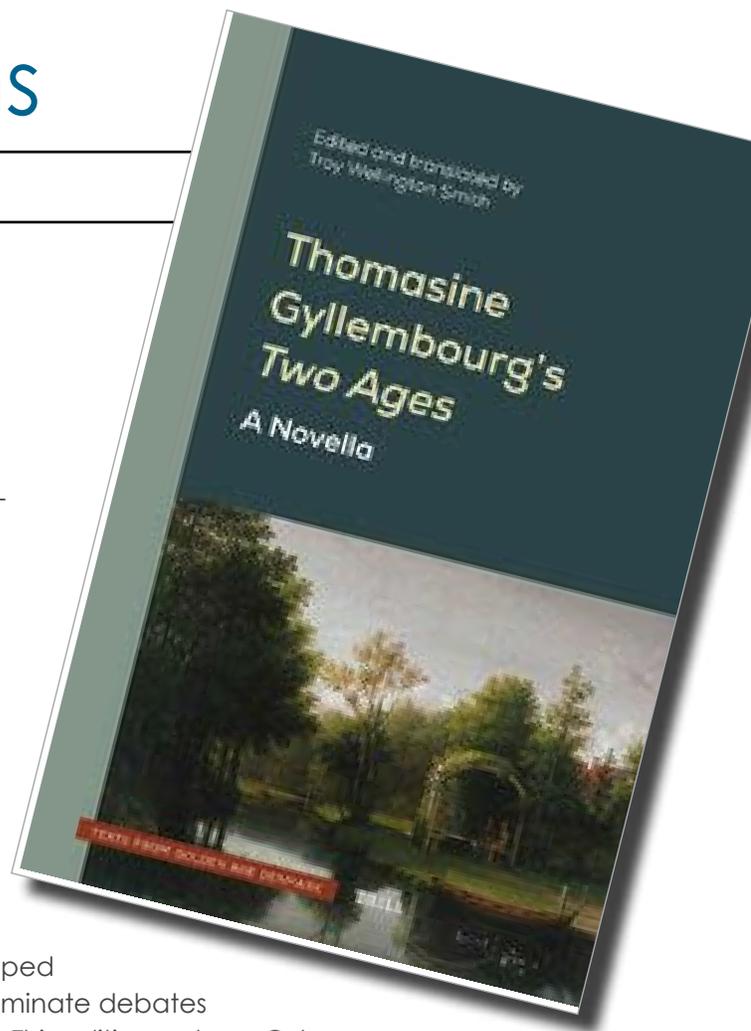
Editor/Translator: Troy Wellington Smith

Although she is now overshadowed by Hans Christian Andersen and Søren Kierkegaard, Thomasine Gyllembourg was arguably the most widely read prose writer of the Danish Golden Age. Known publicly only as “The Author of ‘An Everyday Story’”—a pseudonym derived from her beloved early work—Gyllembourg enjoyed a reputation that extended well beyond her lifetime. Her fiction even earned the admiration of Kierkegaard, who devoted his book-length essay *A Literary Review* (1846) to a sustained analysis of her capstone novella, *Two Ages* (1845).

With this new English translation of *Two Ages*, readers can finally engage directly with the narrative that shaped Kierkegaard's socio-political critique and continues to illuminate debates about modernity, community, and generational change. This edition restores Gyllembourg's central place in Danish literary history and demonstrates her nuanced treatment of gender, class, and everyday life. At once psychologically insightful and socially astute, *Two Ages* remains one of the major literary achievements of Denmark's Golden Age—ready to be rediscovered by contemporary readers, scholars, and students.

For more information:

https://brill.com/display/title/71398?srsId=AfmBOoqWmg3SLaCGrWk_sS4LFMIOWNPDT0x1ghVFEXK-cEpYCjip3mXZtS



Share Your New Publication in News & Notes!

Do you have an upcoming publication to feature in News & Notes? Please email newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org with the details, a high-resolution cover image, and a link to the publisher's website.

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

UNDERGRADUATE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study is happy to accept nominations for the Undergraduate Aurora Borealis prize. SASS will award a \$500 prize for one outstanding undergraduate paper submitted for their coursework in the calendar year preceding the nomination deadline (January 1). Students are welcome to revise their papers, provided submissions are received by the January 1 deadline. Undergraduate papers may be in any field as long as the topic is relevant to the field of Scandinavian Studies. Papers will be evaluated on the following criteria: clarity of argument; rigor of scholarship and appropriateness of sources cited; interest and engagement with the field of Scandinavian Studies.

The nomination link is always open. The committee will review all nominations for the previous calendar year in January and February. Prize winners will be notified in March.

Faculty and Teaching Assistants are strongly encouraged to nominate outstanding student work using the link below.



BALDWIN LANGUAGE FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study invites applications for a summer language fellowship. The fellowship is made possible by the Birgit Baldwin Endowment. The recipient of the fellowship will be known as the Birgit Baldwin Language Fellow.

Entry into Scandinavian Studies requires strong knowledge of a Nordic language. Many students have trouble accessing study opportunities in the Nordic languages. The fellowship is intended to support a High-School or College student seeking to begin or develop language study in a Nordic language. Students acquiring a second language or undertaking advanced study are not prioritized. Students from underrepresented groups in SASS are especially encouraged to apply. The scholarship provides up to \$9000. Applicants may submit applications up to February 15. An announcement will be made by March 15th.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



LOUIS JANUS BOOK SUBVENTION

The SASS book subvention award is open for submissions Junior and senior faculty, non-tenure track faculty, independent scholars and emeritus faculty who are members of SASS in good standing are eligible to apply. Up to four subventions of as much as \$3000 will be awarded in the 2022-3 round of funding (Apr. 1-Mar. 30). The goal of the subvention is to encourage publication of research monographs in Nordic studies by assisting publishers with production costs. Edited article collections are not

eligible for consideration. To receive the award, the author and press must agree to print on the title page of the funded book, "Supported by the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study." Merit of the proposal and the applicant's record of substantive service to SASS as an executive council member or executive officer will be taken into consideration in the assessment of each application.

AWARD CATEGORIES

PRE-TENURE, NON-TENURE TRACK, AND INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

Up to three subventions in this category will be awarded annually. Applicants must be current members of the society, and have been a member in good standing for two full calendar years previous to the year of application. The applicant must have a publishing contract with a university press or other prominent academic publisher. If an applicant receives a subvention award, the award will be paid when the author delivers galley proofs and the press's most up-to-date statement of expected publication date to SASS. For tenure-track applicants, the application must be submitted to SASS before a final decision on promotion to associate professor by the board of regents or equivalent at the applicant's home institution has been made.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS, PROFESSORS, AND EMERITUS FACULTY

Up to three subventions will be awarded in this category annually. The applicant must be a current

member of the society, and have been a member in good standing for five full calendar years previous to the year of application. Applicants must have a publishing contract with a university press or other prominent academic publisher. If an applicant receives a subvention award, the award will be paid when the author delivers galley proofs and the press's most up-to-date statement of expected publication date to SASS.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should submit a letter of application (two pages or less) describing the manuscript and requesting a subvention amount. The application should also include a copy of the press contract, and a letter/email from a representative of the press stating the expected date of publication, the need for the subvention, and the amount requested. The applicant should also include an updated copy of the curriculum vitae. These documents should be submitted as a single PDF via the application link below.

TO APPLY VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/

Call for Applications

baldwin@scandinavianstudy.org

BIRGIT BALDWIN FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies, a grant to encourage the research and writing of dissertations for the PhD in topics concerned with Scandinavian (Nordic) literature or film that can most effectively be pursued in the archives and libraries of the Nordic countries. The stipend is \$30,000 payable in two installments for travel to and living expenses in the Nordic region during one academic year. The application deadline is 1 December of the preceding year.



Applicants should submit a dissertation proposal that includes research plans and evidence of competency (including linguistic competency) to carry them out, supported by letters from two scholars. The successful applicant will demonstrate the significance of

the subject, the need to work in Scandinavia (the Nordic region), and the feasibility of accomplishing the objectives of the research plans. The fellowship committee encourages a realistic assessment from both applicants and referees of the applicants' reading and oral/aural skills, taking into consideration that in many cases reading may be more important than oral facility to the efficient completion of the project at hand. Although the need for some further specialized language training will not disqualify anyone from consideration for this fellowship, applicants should not expect to spend significant amounts of time during the fellowship year on language acquisition.

Applicants must be earning their degrees in North American universities and must be members in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, both during the year in which they submit applications and in the fellowship year. After completion of the fellowship year, the Birgit Baldwin Fellow will be invited to give a short report at the next annual meeting of SASS.

Important Dates

- **Award Period:** June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027
- **Application Deadline:** December 1, 2026
- **Candidates Notified:** February 28, 2026
- **Recipient Announced:** March 15, 2026

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships

Call for Applications

haugen@scandinavianstudy.org

EINAR AND EVA LUND HAUGEN

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship in support of graduate student research. Honoring the ground-breaking cultural and linguistic work of Einar and Eva Lund Haugen, this \$7,500 annual scholarship supports Ph.D. candidates as they conduct research and fieldwork about Nordic or Nordic-American topics in the Social Sciences or History, broadly defined. We are especially excit-

ed to support applicants that demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions to conduct research in archives, libraries, and museums or to pursue fieldwork or excavations.

To apply, you must be:

- An enrolled Ph.D. candidate in North America by the time you receive funding (a successful applicant must prove completion of course work and preliminary requirements for a doctoral degree before receiving the grant)
- A member in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, both during the year in which you submit your application and in the year of funding
- Conducting research or fieldwork about the Nordic region or Nordic America (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sápmi, Sweden, as well as the Nordic-immigrant communities found through North America)
- Researching in the social sciences or history (we encourage you to think broadly about these fields, which can include archaeology, art history, folklore, linguistics, media studies, oral history, philology, etc.)



Important Dates

- Award Period: June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027
- Application Deadline: December 1, 2025
- Candidates Notified: February 28, 2026
- Recipient Announced: March 15, 2026

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships



BROOKLYN

SASS 26

The 2026 SASS conference will take place in Brooklyn, New York at the Marriott Brooklyn Bridge Hotel. This year's presidential theme is BRIDGES.

As metaphor and monument, a bridge establishes a link that would otherwise not exist. As physical structures, both natural and constructed, bridges appear all across the world, in the smallest of villages and in bustling metropolises. They can represent progress and development as well as regress and deterioration. They have been sites of joy and protest, tragedy and celebration. Some exist hidden or unnoticed, where others have become iconic symbols – the Brooklyn Bridge, for instance, has been exalted in poems by the likes of Walt Whitman and Hart Crane. Bridges appear in phrases such as “building bridges” and “burning bridges”; in concepts such as “bridge translation” and “bridging visa”; in slogans such as “build bridges, not walls”; and in idioms like “a bridge too far,” “bridge the gap,” “water under the bridge,” “to sell the Brooklyn Bridge,” and more. Even the very word metaphor is a bridge, etymologically meaning “carrying over.” Bridges are also essential to artistic creation, formally (as in the bridge of a song) or thematically (for instance, Faroese musician Eivør’s 2015 album *Bridges* or the Danish-Swedish crime show *Bron*). Suffice it to say, bridges are everywhere.

The organizing committee encourages submissions that explore bridges of all sorts—and, by extension, other forms of transit, traffic, movement, and dis/connection—in Nordic culture, film, history, language, and/or literature. Other topics and approaches are also welcome.

CALL FOR PAPERS



While the semantic reach of “bridges” stretches as far as actual bridges span the globe, SASS 2026 focuses on their essential function as a means of connection. As Scandinavian Studies grows evermore interdisciplinary, we encourage papers that consider both which connections lie at the core of the field, as well as which connections expand it in new disciplinary directions. Likewise, we welcome papers that draw attention to the international dimensions of Scandinavian Studies, both diachronically and synchronically, as a geographical region, cultural context, or discipline with varying scholarly traditions emerging from different historical, institutional, political, cultural or more contexts. Bridges abound!

SASS 2026 will emphasize roundtables. In line with this year’s theme, we encourage roundtable proposals that extend beyond a particular subfield or national tradition, in other words, that explore a through-line across ostensibly disparate case studies or contexts. Attendees may both present one paper and participate in one roundtable.

Individuals or groups interested in submitting streams can do so by selecting the stream option on the submission form. Please note, stream organizers must also submit a proposal for their own papers.

For more details about the theme, go to page [xx].

Papers and panels that do not explicitly engage with the presidential theme are, naturally and as always at SASS, also welcome.

Submissions

Click here to submit your abstract! <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/78059/submitter>

Need help?

Email us at: sass2026@scandinavianstudy.org



The annual SASS conference has featured thematic streams for several years, and they have become one of its most popular and valued components, offering participants a more focused and immersive conference experience. Streams are particularly effective for fostering collaboration among international scholars working on related topics or methods, and many have developed into long-term research partnerships and publications, including edited volumes and special issues of *Scandinavian Studies*. By providing a structure that supports sustained dialogue and shared inquiry, thematic streams significantly enhance the scholarly rigor and collaborative spirit of the conference.

SASS 2026: Brooklyn will feature seven thematic streams in addition to the Annual Ibsen Panel sponsored by the Ibsen Society of America. As always, individuals whose work does not align with any listed stream are warmly encouraged to submit an abstract to the general paper pool.

For detailed stream descriptions, see pages [xx].

Submissions

Click here to submit your abstract!: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/78059/submitter>

Need help?

Email us at: sass2026@scandinavianstudy.org

NORDIC ORIENTALISM 20 YEARS CONTEMPORARY DEBATES

It has been 20 years since Elisabeth Oxfeldt published her groundbreaking book, *Nordic Orientalism: Paris and the Cosmopolitan Imagination 1800-1900*, which opened a conversation among scholars of Nordic visual and expressive cultures about the reception of, and national dynamics concerning, Asian and North African images and peoples. Since that publication, the rise of decolonizing strategies, efforts to question a European/Nordic canon, examinations of global exchange, the interrogation of the politics and practices of colonialism in relation to museums and collecting, and the examination of globalism and of historical insider/outsider culture have transformed the study of Nordic art and its histories. On the other hand, the slippery concept of Borealism often serves as a framework to exoticize or whitewash the Nordic region (both within the region and from outside perspectives) due to the distinct geography of the region and a romanticized close connection between people and land.

We welcome papers that examine the question of decentering production and reception, whether focused on theory, images, objects, individuals, or critical practices. Topics might include the history of ethnographic collections and the ideological operations of both domestic and museum displays; Nordic self-exotification and nation branding; cultures of performance (theater, circuses); import/export of materials; scientific racialization; commercial images, etc.

Questions?

Reach out to Pat Berman (pberman@wellesley.edu), MaryClaire Pappas (maryclaire.pappas@gmail.com), and Øystein Sjøstad (oystein.sjastad@hf.uio.no)

Keywords

ART HISTORY, 19TH CENTURY



HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN TODAY

In the wake of the 150th anniversary of Hans Christian Andersen's death in 2025, we invite proposals to a stream showcasing Hans Christian Andersen studies in the 21st century. What new approaches can bring his writing into conversation with the social, cultural, and political matters of today? What in our contemporary world brings out aspects of his writing hitherto ignored? In short: What does the scholarship on Hans Christian Andersen look like today. We invite both young and experienced scholars to submit papers to the stream.

Questions?

Reach out to Claus Elholm Andersen (ceandersen2@wisc.edu), Julie Allen (julie_allen@byu.edu), and Tosten Bøgh Thomsen (tbt@sdu.dk)

Keywords

19TH CENTURY, LITERATURE



PEDAGOGICAL BRIDGES

As teachers, we are constantly building bridges: between ourselves and our students, between course concepts, and between our instruction and the world. Those of us who teach Nordic studies outside of the Nordic countries also build linguistic and cultural bridges for our students, including for those who may never visit the places about which we teach. In teaching, we also have the potential to burn bridges, or to miss opportunities to build them.

This stream welcomes panel proposals and individual paper proposals that explore the theme/figure of bridges in a pedagogical context, including but not limited to:

- The potential and limits of the bridge as metaphor for linguistic and cultural instruction, including in a political context in which that symbol can be negatively charged.
- Helping students understand and construct bridges across genres, media, and disciplines, including through successful assignments.
- How AI can help, hurt, and/or complicate ethical, relational, and intellectual bridge-building in teaching and learning.
- Bridging the classroom with the community, through projects, field trips, community engagement, cross-campus collaborations, and more.
- How to build collegial bridges within and across departments, fields, and institutions.
- Theories of pedagogy that employ the bridge, explicitly or implicitly, as a metaphor in teaching and learning, and how these influence your work. (Examples: Peter Elbow wants student writers to bridge the gap between felt sense and the written word; John Dewey suggests students must bridge new ideas to prior knowledge; bell hooks wants to build bridges between academic knowledge and lived experience.)

Questions?

Reach out to Ida Moen Johnson (imjohnson@wisc.edu), Maren Mecham (maren_mecham@byu.edu), Marcus Cederström (cederstrom@wisc.edu), Anna Rue (rue@wisc.edu), Jason Schroeder (jschroeder3@wisc.edu), Melissa Gjellstad (melissa.gjellstad@umd.edu), and Lotta Weckström (lotta.weckstrom@berkeley.edu)

Keywords

21ST CENTURY, CULTURAL STUDIES, PEDAGOGY



THROUGH THE CAMERA LENS: THE VISUAL HERITAGE OF NORDIC SETTLER COLONIALISM

The role of visual practices in settler colonial settings is a growing field of research. Settlers not only used camera-based technology to represent and contemplate loss, dispersal, identity and belonging, but also as manifestations of their assimilation and adaptations to new environments, modern ways of living, and cultural differences. At the same time, such technologies became prominent in Indigenous visual storytelling. Importantly, visual practices also articulate processes of struggle, negotiation, and exchange. This stream explores the camera-based heritage of Nordic settler colonialism: How is it challenged today? How does it unfold over a wide spectrum of social arenas, involving different actors, media and materialities? How may the study of this visual heritage provide new insights on settler colonial and Indigenous encounters?



This stream invites scholarship on visual culture (photography, film, camera-based art) related to Nordic-diasporic context in North America. We welcome work engaging settler-colonial frameworks (e.g. camera-based images that sustain or contest colonial structures) and work grounded in Indigenous studies (e.g. Indigenous perspectives, methodologies, and sovereignties). Settler-colonial visual tropes (e.g. the conquering of the landscape, the railway as a settler colonial metaphor, urban and rural settlements, Indigenous absence and presence). Please specify your approach and key terms so reviewers can place submissions appropriately; interdisciplinary and method-bridging papers are especially encouraged. Topics may for example be:

- Family photographs in settler colonial perspectives
- Concurrent visual practices (Indigenous and settler colonial)
- Camera-based art addressing settler colonial heritage
- Camera-based Indigenous activism
- Representations of Nordic settler colonialism in film, including the relationship between settlers and Indigenous peoples (e.g. The Cohen Brothers', visual accounts of the Midwest)

Questions?

Reach out to Hilde W Niessen (hilni@hvl.no), and Sigrid Lien (sigrid.lien@uib.no)

Keywords

19TH CENTURY, 20TH CENTURY, 21ST CENTURY, COLONIALISM/SETTLER COLONIALISM, FILM AND

NORDIC HERITAGE IN CHANGING COMMUNITIES

Focusing on former Scandinavian-American neighborhoods in the United States, this stream examines what happens when Nordic historical sites no longer align with contemporary communities — especially when the communities that created them have long since moved away, yet continue to shape these spaces through their lingering absence.

We focus on what might be called the “uninvited ghosts” of heritage: statues, street names, monuments, and buildings that remain after their original meanings and legitimacy have faded. How do new residents and urban actors live with, ignore, resist, or repurpose these inherited memories?

Scandinavian heritage can be found across American cities — from Brooklyn to the Twin Cities — where successive waves of immigrants have both inherited and redefined the material traces of earlier communities. One illustrative example is Lapskaus Boulevard in Brooklyn, once a celebrated symbol of Norwegian-American identity, now absorbed into Brooklyn's modern Chinatown. Originally designed to commemorate Nordic exploration, the area today is characterized by Chinese-language signs, Buddhist temples, and immigrant-owned businesses. Similar patterns of transformation are visible in Chicago and the Twin Cities, as well as in many Scandinavian urban immigrant contexts.

We invite contributions that address questions including, but not limited to:

- What happens when memory is not mine — yet I cannot avoid it?
- Who bears responsibility for preserving, reinterpreting, or removing inherited memories?
- How does one live within the heritage of others — and when does it become one's own?
- What occurs when memory is mine, but others have appropriated or inherited it? When does ownership of heritage end?

Questions?

Reach out to Torgrim Sneve Guttormsen (torgrim.guttormsen@niku.no), and Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock (tedgn@iastate.edu)

Keywords

20TH CENTURY, MIGRATION STUDIES, URBAN HERITAGE STUDIES



BRIDGING THE SWEDISH ATLANTIC

This stream aspires to promote new multi-disciplinary histories and narratives of Swedish migration that unsettle and complicate the dominance of Vilhelm Moberg's Emigrant series and its cultural afterlives. We seek scholarship that expands and troubles the geographies, chronologies, methodologies, and ideologies of the traditional saga of Swedish emigration to the Midwestern United States in the second half of the nineteenth century.

The analytic of the Swedish Atlantic enables a perspective on Swedish migration embedded in the Atlantic as a site of concurrent and entangled histories connecting Europe, the Americas, and Africa from first contact through the present. This perspective addresses the general disconnection between migration studies and colonialism to focus attention on the colonial logics and practices that contour Swedish migration of people, objects, texts, and ideas, including transatlantic slavery, Indigenous dispossession, settler colonialism, and heteropatriarchy.

Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- Sweden and Atlantic modernity
- Swedes and racial capitalism
- Swedish transatlantic adoption
- Swedish involvement in the Atlantic slave trade and systems of chattel slavery in the Atlantic world
- Swedish settler colonialism in North America, South America, Africa and the Nordic countries
- Swedes, whiteness, and Atlantic racial hierarchies
- Swedish Sami histories
- Swedes and Atlantic feminisms, patriarchy and gender identities
- Swedish migrants in the Atlantic world, including Sami and transimperial elites
- Swedes in the Caribbean, including in Saint Barthélemy
- Swedish immigration experiences and policies
- Afro-Swedes and Afro-Swedish culture
- New Sweden
- Narratives of Swedish travel in the Atlantic world



Questions?

Reach out to Lucia Hodgson (luciakhodgson@gmail.com), and Marie Bennedahl (marie.benedahl@lnu.se)

Keywords

COLONIALISM/SETTLER COLONIALISM, MIGRATION STUDIES, SWEDEN

ANNUAL IBSEN PANEL

All proposed papers relevant to Ibsen studies will be considered for the Annual Ibsen Society of America (ISA) panel at SASS. The ISA panel aims to support the field of Ibsen studies by showcasing cutting edge research on Ibsen from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. All approaches and themes are welcome, including (but not limited to) new research on Ibsen guided by the theme “Bridges.” Papers in Ibsen studies not selected will be considered for other relevant streams and panels.

Questions?

Reach out to Olivia Nobel Gunn (ogunn@uw.edu)

Keywords

IBSEN, THEATRE, PERFORMANCE

MUSICAL BRIDGES: SOUND, PERFORMANCE, AND CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

This stream invites papers that explore music as a connective force across time, place, and community in the Nordic world. We welcome musicology, music history, and performance-based contributions that engage with the 2026 SASS theme of Bridges—whether through transnational musical exchange, archival rediscoveries, reinterpretations of tradition, or creative collaborations. Submissions may address any period or genre, including folk, classical, popular, or experimental music. We especially encourage interdisciplinary approaches that link music to identity, memory, migration, diplomacy, or technological change, and that highlight how sound builds bridges within and beyond Scandinavian Studies.



Questions?

Reach out to Colin Levin (colinlevin@gmail.com), and Evan Fein (efein@juilliard.edu)

Keywords

MUSIC, CULTURAL STUDIES

ANNUAL IBSEN PANEL

All proposed papers relevant to Ibsen studies will be considered for the Annual Ibsen Society of America (ISA) panel at SASS. The ISA panel aims to support the field of Ibsen studies by showcasing cutting edge research on Ibsen from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. All approaches and themes are welcome, including (but not limited to) new research on Ibsen guided by the theme "Bridges." Papers in Ibsen studies not selected will be considered for other relevant streams and panels.

Questions?

Reach out to Olivia Nobel Gunn (ogunn@uw.edu)

Keywords

IBSEN, THEATRE, PERFORMANCE





PRIVATE SASS TOUR OF THE MORGAN LIBRARY

Join SASS Executive Council Member Troy Wellington Smith and other SASS members on a private visit to the Morgan Library. SASS attendees will be given a preview of the Morgan's upcoming exhibit on Johan Tobias Sergel as well as a special look at their collection of Norwegian and Danish Golden Age art. Space will be limited to 25 attendees. Pre-registration will open in January.

Date: Thursday April 23, 2026

Time: 10:00-11:00am

Location: The Morgan Library
225 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10016

Learn more about the Morgan here:
<https://www.themorgan.org>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENT AT SCANDINAVIA HOUSE

Graduate students and early-career scholars - visit with professionals who have followed a non-traditional path post-graduate school as well as meeting with SASS academic career mentors for tips and tricks for pursuing your post-graduate plans. More details to come in the January issue!

Date: Thursday April 23, 2026

Time: 10:00am - 3:00pm

Location: Scandinavia House
58 Park Ave
New York, NY 10016



OPENING RECEPTION



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

This year's keynote speech will be given by Dr. Monica Miller (Barnard College) and held at Scandinavia House, followed by the opening reception.

About Dr. Miller:

Monica L. Miller is Chair and Professor of Africana Studies at Barnard College, Columbia University. A specialist in contemporary African American and Afro-diasporic literature and cultural studies, she is

the author of the book *Slaves to Fashion: Black Dandyism and the Styling of Black Diasporic Identity*, which inspired *Superfine: Tailoring Black Style*, the 2025 Costume Institute exhibition at The Met. A frequent commentator in the media and arts worlds, she teaches and writes about Black literature, art, and performance, fashion cultures, and contemporary Black European culture and politics. She is currently at work on a book project, *Blackness Swedish Style: Race and the Rhizomatics of Being* which considers cultural production by the emerging black community in Sweden and its connection to Black European identity formation and cultural/political movements.

monicamiller.com



SCANDINAVIA
HOUSE

ABOUT THE VENUE

Located in the heart of midtown Manhattan at 58 Park Avenue. *Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America* is the leading center for Nordic culture in the United States, offering a wide range of programs that illuminate the culture and vitality of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

scandinaviahouse.org



BROOKLYN
SASS 26

ACCOMODATIONS

SASS 2026: Brooklyn will be held at the **New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge.**

Single Rooms: \$289 per night

Double Rooms: \$289 per night

Special Rate Deadline: April 1, 2026

Make your reservation by April 1, 2026 to get the SASS rate. SASS rates available for stays from April 21-26, 2026

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SASSConference2026>

Come early and enjoy New York City and SASS-sponsored pre-conference events (see page 18)

Graduate students who are presenting at SASS are eligible for partial hotel support

HOTEL INFO

Minutes from amazing attractions, the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge is one of the most exciting hotels in Brooklyn, New York. Situated close to Prospect Park, our hotel near the Brooklyn Bridge provides guests with an inspired vantage point to work, play and relax. Thoughtfully designed, our guest rooms and suites boast amenities like plush bedding, flat-panel TVs and high-speed Wi-Fi; some accommodations feature private terraces with stunning views of the downtown skyline. Honey and honeycomb is sold in the Great Room. Dine at the Great Room Restaurant and Bar, where locally sourced cuisine take center stage. along with banquet options. Reboot our fitness center, which features Peloton Bikes. With a premier events venue in downtown Brooklyn, it features over 39,000 square feet of adaptable space and impeccable planning services. Stay wih your four-legged friend at our pet-friendly hotel in Brooklyn near Dumbo, NYC. Come chart your own adventure at New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge.

Find more info about the conference hotel here:

<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/nycbk-new-york-marriott-at-the-brooklyn-bridge/overview>

REGISTRATION



Registration opens January 15, 2025

REGISTRATION RATES

- Standard Rate: \$385 (Early Bird: \$335)
- Student Rate: \$200 (Early Bird: \$150)

Includes access to all regular sessions, the keynote, Thursday evening reception, and Saturday banquet.

Early Bird Registration Available until March 15, 2025

- One-Day Rate: \$125

Includes access to all sessions and coffee breaks for Friday or Saturday only. Does not include admission to the Thursday keynote and reception or the Saturday banquet.

- Keynote and Opening Reception Only: \$75

Admits one individual to the Thursday keynote and reception.

- Exhibitor Registration: \$1,000

Includes one 6-ft display table and one representative's full access to all conference events.

See pg 22 for details.

TICKET ADD-ONS

Additional Banquet Ticket: \$150

Pre-Conference Professional Development Event: Free
(pre-registration required)

Private Tour of the Morgan Library: Free
(pre-registration required; limited to 25 attendees)

Graduate Student Social Event: \$10
(pre-registration required)

Click Here to Register after January 15:

<https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/register/event/74957>



SASS 2026: BROOKLYN EXHIBITORS

Showcase your organization, publications, or products at the SASS 2026: Brooklyn Exhibitor Hall—the hub of our annual meeting! Reserve a table to connect with scholars, educators, and cultural leaders from across the Nordic world. Exhibitors enjoy prime visibility during coffee breaks, receptions, and dedicated exhibit hours. Whether you're a publisher, academic program, cultural institution, or Nordic-focused business, the hall is a vibrant space to share your work and strengthen community ties. Reserve your table today and be part of the conversation!

Exhibitor Registration Fee: \$1,000

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- One 6-ft table and two chairs
- Full conference registration for one representative
- A link on the event website
- Recognition in the March News & Notes and in the digital program

ADD-ONS AVAILABLE:

- Additional 6-ft table in the Exhibit Hall – \$500
- Registration for additional representatives – \$275

FOLLOW THIS LINK TO REGISTER TODAY!

<https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/register/event/74957>

DO YOU REPRESENT A NON-PROFIT?

Reach out to Kelsey for discounted exhibitor rates at exhibits@scandinavianstudy.org

SPONSORS

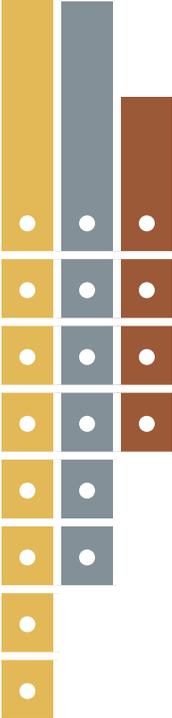


GOLD: \$7,500

SILVER: \$5,000

BRONZE: \$2,500

- Recognition in News & Notes
- Your web link on the conference site
- Listing w/web link in digital program
- One (1) complimentary tote bag insert
- Two (2) complimentary registrations
- Exhibit Table: One (1) 6-ft table
- Recognition on conference signage
- Recognition in pre-conference emails



ACTIVITY SPONSORSHIP

Sponsoring an activity includes recognition of your organization on conference signage and in promotional materials, along with the associated benefits listed above.

- **\$7,500:** Wi-Fi Sponsorship (*Exclusive*)
- **\$5,000:** Coffee Break Sponsorship
- **\$2,500:** Graduate Student Mixer (*Exclusive*)
- **\$100:** Tote bag insert

Exclusive activities have only one sponsor

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING SASS 2026: BROOKLYN?

Individuals, organizations, and corporations interested in supporting SASS through sponsorship of SASS 2026: Brooklyn should reach out to Kimberly at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org to discuss how you can support current research in the field, expand access to Nordic language study, and empower the next generation of scholars.

