

Call for Papers
The Toni Morrison Society invites abstracts for the following panels
for the
American Literature Association
21st Annual Conference

May 27-30, 2010

Hyatt Regency San Francisco
In Embarcadero Center
5 Embarcadero Center
San Francisco, CA 94111

For Conference Registration Visit the American Literature Association Website
http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/english/ala2/american_literature_association_2010.html

Panel Participants must be Members of the Toni Morrison Society
TMS Membership information can be found at
www.tonimorrisonssociety.org

Send one-page abstracts to Alma Jean Billingslea at jbillingslea3@comcast.net and

Yvonne Atkinson at yvonnea777@msn.com. **Deadline for abstracts: January 20, 2010.**

Panel #1: Hospitality in Morrison's Fiction

Migration, internationalization, globalization and transnationalism are all phenomena which have given the reception and welcoming of strangers a particular cast in the 21st century. Linked to Morrison's 2007 curatorial project on "The Foreigner's Home," this panel invites papers to consider the concept of hospitality in Morrison's fiction. Papers might explore the laws of common, conditional hospitality; the ethics of unconditional hospitality; the relationship between host, guest, and stranger; or hospitality as an interruption of self.

Panel # 2: Aurality: Music and Sound in Morrison's Fiction

While oral traditions from folk vernacular to Black English have been focal points of studies of Toni Morrison's texts, this panel invites papers that consider aurality in Morrison's works. While written texts are not usually considered to be in any way aural, Morrison's works thrum with sound. In an interview for the National Visionary Leadership Project, Morrison talks about the aurality of her community and her text when she says, the "quality of richness" is in the "history of songs and tales told." Papers might explore strategies, forms or styles that re-create sound, song, and music in Morrison's fiction or the relationship between written and oral texts.