



# **WLA 2025: Words of Fire**

## **HONORING THE MULTICULTURAL WESTERN NARRATIVE**

**The 2025 Western Literature Association Conference**  
**September 21-24, 2025**

**Okana Resort and Indoor Waterpark, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Situated next to the First Americans Museum and built by the Chickasaw Nation, the Okana Hotel celebrates and honors the rich cultural tapestry of the region. Oklahoma's history is a testament to Indigenous resilience and empowerment amidst a complex multicultural landscape.

The conference theme seeks to explore the transformative power of words across diverse cultural narratives. We aim to (re)center multiculturalism in the western narrative, examining how diverse histories have shaped and continue to influence our understanding of western literature.

We invite abstracts that engage with, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Oral traditions and narratives
- Multicultural perspectives in western literature
- Indigenous Oklahoma
- Multiculturalism in the Archives
- Literary responses to historical and contemporary issues in Oklahoma
- Black feminist thought and stories of the American west
- Representations of resilience and community in western fiction and drama
- Latine/Latinx narratives
- The role of environmental and social justice in western literature
- Asian American Plains histories
- Gender and sexuality in the western narrative
- Afro-indigeneity in western literature
- Young Adult novels and Children's Literature
- Contemporary Oklahoma in popular culture, media, and film
- Memoir
- The Poetic West/ The Dramatic West
- ...and more!

Join us in Oklahoma City as we explore the dynamic intersections of literature, culture, and history. See the conference website for more details. For more information, contact WLA 2025 President **Kalenda Eaton** at [wlaconference2025@westernlit.org](mailto:wlaconference2025@westernlit.org).

WLA 2025 is a call to action to critically examine and celebrate the multicultural foundations of western literature. We look forward to your contributions in shaping this important dialogue.