



ICLS North American Branch at Kalamazoo 2024 (May 9-14)



STRONG WOMEN IN COURTLY CULTURE

Organizer: Suzanne Hagedorn

In this roundtable, the ICLS—NAB will host a series of presenters discussing the topic of strong women in courtly culture—both women like Eleanor of Aquitaine and Marie de Champagne who presided over courts in which troubadours and trobairitz

composed poetry and strong women who figure in courtly poetry, either as addressees or as characters within courtly romances. Feminist approaches to courtly literature remain as important, though more recent feminist scholars tend to approach both powerful women in courtly culture and female literary characters with less admiration and more skeptical analysis of their contributions and behavior.



GLOBAL COURTLY CULTURE

Organizer: Kathy Krause

The ICLS-NAB seeks papers on the theme of global courtly culture. Papers on any aspect of global literary court culture are welcome, including but not limited to: literary production, patronage, and circulation at court, and courtly culture as depicted in medieval literary texts (in any language). In all cases, the focus should be global, understood in the largest sense possible. Possibilities could include depictions of distant courts in literary texts of another region; intercultural copying and translating of courtly texts; dissemination of courtly texts (or texts about courts) across cultures via marriage, trade, conflict, etc.



“THAT DAY WE READ NO FURTHER.” MANUSCRIPT OWNERSHIP AND READING AT COURT

Organizer: Gloria Allaire

Reading figured highly among courtly diversions as attested by commissioned books, often lavishly illustrated and richly bound. Manuscript contents, both written and visual, provide evidence for reception among elite readers. Compilations and anthologies can suggest personal or political agendas embedded in the choice of texts and programmatic structure. Paper topics may include discoveries of previously unidentified manuscripts or reinterpretations of known ones. As material objects manuscripts were not only a means of entertainment, but served as markers of status and as valued gift items. Using codicological and archival evidence, presenters may also examine details of production and/or transmission between courts.

TO SUBMIT A PAPER :

follow this link to access the ICMS Confex system: <https://wmich.edu/medievalcongress/submissions#papers>

ICLS-NAB EMERGING SCHOLARS GRANT

Underfunded scholars giving a paper at any of the above sessions are warmly invited to apply for the ICLS-NAB Emerging Scholars Grant when they are submitting their abstracts

The grant includes a free one-year membership to ICLS-NAB and a \$200 stipend to cover the ICMS 2024 registration fee.

COURTLY FOODS AND FEASTING

Organizer: Gloria Allaire



Panelists will examine the importance of food (and drink) in courtly contexts using literary, archival or archeological

sources to identify menu items and food lexicon. Topics include the ceremonial role of banquets as cultural signifiers and creators of social identity, and how the materiality of culinary objects contributed to these constructions. In addition to historical realities, papers may consider the mythical, magical, miraculous or allegorical functions of food and cooking imagery in manuscripts, art, and medieval dramas as well as the sensual aspects of food.

For additional questions, please contact Susanne Hafner at HAFNER@FORDHAM.EDU