CALL FOR PAPERS

SHARP EYES VII: AN ASLE-AFFILIATED CONFERENCE

IS NATURE WRITING DEAD?

June 4-7, 2012
At the State University of New York College at Oneonta

This conference will be the seventh in the John Burroughs Nature Writing Conference & Seminar series. The theme of this year’s conference was inspired by a statement offered at an Earth Day event at Middlebury College in 2010 honoring John Elder, where an editor from Orion Magazine declared that “Nature Writing is dead.” The obvious rejoinder to such a declaration is “what do you mean by ‘nature writing’?” The 2012 conference will address this issue, and invites papers dealing with writers of natural history such as Henry Thoreau, John Burroughs, and other nineteenth-century authors through the more politically-charged writing of modern writers. We also welcome papers that deal with permutations of “nature writing” that go beyond the natural history essay, including green (and blue) works in the genres of film, fiction, and poetry. As always, papers on any aspect of John Burroughs’s life and work are also encouraged. Papers are delivered to plenary sessions of students, faculty, and visiting scholars. Conference field trips will include a visit to John Burroughs’s Woodchuck Lodge in Roxbury, New York, which is within walking distance of his burial site. Graduate or undergraduate credit is available through SUNY College at Oneonta.

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Send abstracts or proposals by March 31, 2012, to
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E-mail submissions should be sent as an MS Word attachment to paynedg@oneonta.edu
http://www.oneonta.edu/academics/english/conferences/johnburroughs.html