



# All Together Different

*Reading Willa Cather Across Regions*

19<sup>th</sup> International Willa Cather Seminar  
Milwaukee, WI | June 25–27, 2025



# A LEGACY THAT ENDURES

*“... what was any art but an effort to make a sheath, a mould in which to imprison for a moment the shining, elusive element which is life itself,—life hurrying past us and running away, too strong to stop, too sweet to lose?”*

The National Willa Cather Center’s purpose is to enrich lives by advancing Willa Cather’s legacy. Our commitment to the arts enables thousands of readers to engage with Cather’s writing by way of educational programs, residencies, preserved historic sites, and archival collections.

Cather’s ability to evoke a sense of place and to capture the undercurrent of human emotion is as meaningful today as it was more than a century ago. When you join the Cather Legacy Society and make gift arrangements to benefit the National Willa Cather Center beyond your lifetime, you help us share Cather’s artistry with scores of readers and students each year

Your estate planning attorney can include a provision in your will that leaves a lasting gift to us: a specific asset, a dollar amount, or a percentage of your estate. A bequest can also be made from the residue of your estate or what is left after all gifts have been made to your heirs. You can make an impact and support future generations with a gift that makes a statement about who you are and what’s important to you.

**What will your legacy be?**

For more information or to notify us of a planned gift, please contact Jeniffer Beahm at 402-746-2653 or [jbeahm@willacather.org](mailto:jbeahm@willacather.org).



## FEATURED GUESTS



### Jeffrey Insko

Jeffrey Insko is Professor of English and Coordinator of American Studies at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, where he teaches courses on nineteenth-century American literature and culture and the Environmental and Energy Humanities. He is the author of *History, Abolition, and the Ever-Present Now in Antebellum American Writing* (Oxford, 2018) and the editor of the Norton Library Edition of *Moby-Dick* (2024). His recent work on energy, environment, and infrastructure has appeared in such venues as the *Cambridge Companion to the Environmental Humanities*, the *Oxford Handbook of Ralph Waldo Emerson*, *Post45*, and *The Dial*. He is currently completing a book about energy infrastructure, the Great Lakes, and industrial modernity titled *The North 30: An Environmental History of America's Most Dangerous Pipeline*.



### Noreen Masud

Noreen Masud is a lecturer in Twentieth Century Literature at the University of Bristol and an AHRC/BBC New Generation Thinker. Her research covers all kinds of bases: flatness, spivs, puppets, leftovers, earworms, footnotes, rhymes, hymns, surprises, folk songs, colours, superstitions. While Masud works mostly on twentieth-century literature, she also makes forays into Victorian and Romantic literature. Her upcoming book, *Flat Landscapes in Twentieth-Century Literature*, focuses on D. H. Lawrence, Willa Cather and Gertrude Stein. Portions of the manuscript have been published in *Textual Practice* and *Twentieth-Century Literature*.



### F. Marvin Hannah, Jr.

F. Marvin Hannah, Jr. is a naturally gifted singer and actor. He’s shared his rich and warm baritone voice with multiple local and national artists, including Bruce Springsteen, Eddie Vedder, Beyonce Knowles, Usher, Mary J. Blige, Mariah Carey, Justin Bieber, and more. His primary stage and acting experiences include several performances at Skylight Theatre, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, First Stage, Pink Theatre, the Bronzeville Arts Ensemble, Vanguard Productions, and many local stage readings. He’s been an extra on *The Joe Para Show* and served as a model for several General Electric Company (Industrial) projects, as well as a season four trailer for *Fargo*. He collaborated on the Emmy-winning, Milwaukee PBS production of “Crossing the Bridge.”



### Patti Meadors

Patti Meadors (she/they) is a midwest-based performer, choreographer and coach. Select theatrical credits include working with the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Pink Umbrella Theater Co., Kith and Kin Theatre Collective and Bombshell Theatre Company. Originally from the Chicagoland area, Patti has a love for musical theatre, new works and theatre for young audiences! [www.pattimeadors.com](http://www.pattimeadors.com)

**ON THE COVER:** Willa Cather’s Travel Trunk, ca. 1900. OBJ-50-051. Southwick Family Collection. Willa Cather Foundation Special Collections & Archives at the National Willa Cather Center in Red Cloud.



# All Together Different

## Reading Willa Cather Across Regions

Seminar check-in is in the Lobby of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Downtown Conference Center, 161 West Wisconsin Avenue.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

**10:00 Seminar Kick-off | Room 7820**

Welcome and opening remarks – Melissa Homestead, Kelsey Squire, and Ashley Olson

**10:30 Session 1: Reading *The Professor's House* | Room 7970**

Chair: Kelsey Squire

White Power in the Heartland

*Charmion Gustke*

*The Professor's House* [Beautiful]: Willa Cather's Reconstruction of the Architecture of Paterian Aestheticism

*Tim Maxwell*

Cather's Cowboy

*Robert Thacker*

**Noon Lunch Break | Room 7820**

**1:30 Session 2: Cather and Race | Room 7920**

Chair: Charmion Gustke

The Absent English Adventurers in North America

*Sarah Clere*

Deweyan Localism, Race, and the Declining Frontier in Willa Cather's *A Lost Lady*

*Ashley Etter*

Cather, Arendt, James: Parvenus and Pariahs in *The Professor's House*

*Ben Siegle*

The West's Translation of the American South: Western Regionalism, Owen Wister, and the Question of Southern Inheritance in Willa Cather's "Old Mrs. Harris"

*Peter Wilson*

**3:00 Break**

**3:30 Session 3A: Materiality of Nature | Room 7920**

Chair: Sarah Clere

Gardening Well: Cultivation and Faith in Willa Cather's *Death Comes for the Archbishop*

*Patrick Alvis*

Greyfriars Bobby and Cather's Canine Cohort

*David McKay Powell*

"In My Other House Garden": Queer Domestic Spaces in Willa Cather's *The Professor's House* and Robert Ferro's *Second Son*

*Michael Schueth*

**3:30 Session 3B: Transnational Cather | Room 7820**

Chair: Melissa J. Homestead

Transcending Borders: A Comparative Analysis of 20th Century Regionalism in Willa Cather's *The Professor's House*

*Naima Bilal Minhas*

*My Ántonia* and the Narrative of Empathetic Remembering

*Chibueze Darlington Anuonye*

From the Prairie to the Outback: Willa Cather in Australia

*Mark Madigan*

Reimagining Modernity: The Deterritorialization and Reterritorialization of New France Space in Willa Cather's *Shadows on the Rock*

*Xuesong Zhou*

**5:00 Dinner Break on your own**

**7:00 Featured Speaker Jeffrey Insko: "Oil and Water Don't Mix: Energy, Infrastructure, and the Great Lakes" | Room 7820**

The Straits of Mackinac is the meeting place of two Great Lakes: Michigan and Huron. It is also home to a seventy year-old crude oil pipeline, which over the past decade has become a key site of environmental and climate activism in the Midwest. How can humanistic methods and approaches help us reckon with the energy past and future in a time of planetary crisis? This talk brings insights from the Energy Humanities and Infrastructure Studies to bear upon the pipeline controversy, as well as provide a new lens with which to consider Cather's Professor.

The views expressed in international seminar programs do not necessarily reflect the views of the Willa Cather Foundation or the Cather Project of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of English.

Where will your Cather research lead?

# NEBRASKA

*The National Willa Cather Center in Red Cloud  
and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Archives & Special Collections*

**In Red Cloud**

- Historic site tours
- Museum objects
- Cather Family Library and other rare book collections
- Cather correspondence, journals, ledgers, ephemera
- Cather family letters, records and photographs

To schedule a visit:  
[tucker@willacather.org](mailto:tucker@willacather.org)

**In Lincoln**

- Cather correspondence, journals, ledgers, ephemera
- Cather family letters, photos, and papers
- Papers from noted Cather scholars and biographers
- The Willa Cather Archive, a digital initiative

To schedule a visit:  
<https://tinyurl.com/UNL-Lib>



UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA  
LINCOLN



Willa Cather  
CENTER



THURSDAY, JUNE 26

- 9:00   **Session 4: Cather in Washington, D.C. | Room 7970**  
Chair: Ashley Olson  
Willa Cather and Standing Bear Go to Washington: Statues, Displacement, and Regional Identity  
    *Susannah Davis*  
Escape from the Museum: *The Professor’s House*, the University, and the Pragmatic Image  
    *Joseph C. Murphy*  
Mr. Outland Goes to Washington  
    *Steve Shively*
- 10:30   **Session 5: Resettling Willa Cather’s Wests | Room 7820**  
Chair: Emily J. Rau  
Willa Cather’s Uneven Ground  
    *Emily J. Rau*  
“The Waste and Wear We Are Powerless to Combat”: Willa Cather and the Settler-Colonial Politics of Place-Making  
    *Rachel Collins*  
Bad Roads and Burial Grounds: Feral Transport Media and Narrative Erasure in Willa Cather’s Migrant Tales  
    *Paul Burch*  
“It Ain’t My Prairie”: Willa Cather and Settler Colonialism  
    *William R. Handley*  
Temporary Presences on the Mesa: “Tom Outland’s Story” and Mesa Verde National Park  
    *Sarah Jane Kerwin*  
Quilting the West: Willa Cather and the Madonna of the Train  
    *Ariel Silver*
- Noon   **Lunch Break | Room 7820**
- 1:30   **Session 6: Editing and Publishing | Room 7970**  
Chair: Tracy Sanford Tucker  
Editing the Boy’s Diary in *The Professor’s House*  
    *Daryl Palmer*  
“It’s built that way”: On the Composition of *Lucy Gayheart’s* Books II and III  
    *Lexus Root*  
“Worked Up, Studied Out”: *The Professor’s House* and the Regional Turn in Stuart Pratt Sherman’s Late Criticism  
    *Nathan Tye*
- 3:00   **Break**
- 3:30   **Featured Speaker Noreen Masud: “Willa Cather’s Flatness” | Room 7820**  
In this virtual talk, Masud will consider what the flatness of the prairie—or, more precisely, the imagined flatness of the prairie—makes possible for Willa Cather and her characters. She suggests that, in Cather’s hands, topographical flatness makes available a phenomenon of memory—something between *presque vu* and *deja vu*—which creates a disruption of relationships between self and other. This disruption, counter-intuitively, affords Cather and her characters new affective and relational possibilities.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

- 9:00   **Session 7: Cather and University Culture | Room 7970**  
Chair: Melissa Homestead  
*The Professor’s House*, Land Grant Institutions, and the Appropriation of Indigenous Wealth  
    *Lisbeth Strimple Fuisz*  
*The Professor’s House* and the Social Position of the University  
    *Yohei Yamamoto*
- 10:30   **Session 8: Cather’s Metaphorical Regions | Room 7970**  
Chair: Emily J. Rau  
The Eastern-ness of Cather’s West: Some Paradoxes of Place and Region in Cather’s Fiction  
    *Rick Millington*  
Alexandra’s “Acute Grief” from Emil’s Sudden Death in *O Pioneers!*  
    *LaVona Reeves*  
Willa Cather’s *The Professor’s House*—Phenomenologically Speaking  
    *Kim Vanderlaan*  
Cather’s Queer Regionalism in Translation  
    *Kathryn Woods*
- Noon   **Lunch Break on your own**
- 2:00   **Session 9: Cather and Place | Room 7820**  
Chair: Kelsey Squire  
“You children used to live in his stories”: Spatial Echoes across Regions in *The Professor’s House*  
    *Rachel Collins*  
The Wreck of the *Lucy Gayheart*: Lake Michigan, Chicago, and Dangerous Modernity  
    *Barry Hudek*  
Restless Curiosity: Willa Cather’s Expansive Search for Place and Purpose  
    *Beth Vigoren*
- 6:00   **Concluding Event | Centennial Room at the Milwaukee Public Library, 733 North 8th St.**  
“On the Bright Edges”: Landscape and Longing   *A Willa Cather Readers Theater*  
The event will be a classy, spirited affair—minus the actual spirits! In recognition that the *The Professor’s House* was published right in the heart of Prohibition, and to adhere to library regulations, we will keep the evening dry. Rest assured, the company will be lively and the food and (nonalcoholic) drinks will be abundant.



Blanche Cather Ray Collection at the National Willa Cather Center in Red Cloud, Nebraska.

## PANEL PRESENTERS

**Patrick Alvis** studies at Baylor University, where he is a PhD student in English. He earned his BA in English Literature and Philosophy at the University of Dallas. He then spent two years after graduation at Gregory the Great Academy, a small classical school in Pennsylvania, teaching classes in writing, rhetoric, Greek history, and folk music. His research interests include 20<sup>th</sup> century Modernism in Ireland, as well as the relationship between aesthetics and ethics in literature. He is also interested in 20<sup>th</sup> century American authors such as Willa Cather, William Faulkner, and Wendell Berry.

**Chibueze Darlington Anuonye** is a doctoral student in the English Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A literary conversationalist, Anuonye is also an editor and contributing writer for *The Hopkins Review* and *World Literature Today*.

**Paul Burch** is an instructor and teaching fellow with the Program for Writing and Communication at Rice University, where he teaches first-year writing seminars on environmental film, automobility in film, and narratives of the American West. He received his PhD in English from Rice University in 2024, where he completed a dissertation on “bad roads” and narrative ferality in American literature and film: a project that derived its core concept from the works of Willa Cather. His broader research interests include 1970s horror cinema, Anglophilia in American popular culture, and, most recently, the defense of process-based writing in education.

**Sarah Clere** is an independent scholar from Charleston, SC. She is an issue editor for the *Willa Cather Review* and co-directed the 2024 Willa Cather Spring Conference. She has published several articles on Cather, most recently in *Cather Studies* 14.

**Rachel Collins** is an Assistant Professor in the English Department at Arcadia University where she teaches courses in American literature and culture. Her research is broadly located within the geohumanities, and investigates how geographic models developed to explain the material world can also be productively used in exploring literary worlds. She also serves as director of the university’s first-year writing program.

**Susannah Davis** teaches English at the Language Centre of the University of Passau and is a doctoral student. Raised in New York and Omaha, she worked and studied in Pittsburgh before moving abroad. She has taught English to university students in several countries.

**Ashley Etter** is a PhD student in the Department of English at the University of Notre Dame, where she works on American literature of the long nineteenth century, ecocriticism, and regionalism.

**Lisbeth Fuisz** teaches American literature and writing at Georgetown University. In 2022, she enjoyed a Nebraska Cather Collaborative Research Grant for Willa Cather Scholarship. She has written essays that have appeared in *The Willa Cather Review* and has an essay that is forthcoming in *Cather Studies* 14.

**Charmion Gustke** is associate professor of English and Honors at Belmont University in Nashville, where she also coordinates the First-Year Seminar Program. She has published articles on both Willa Cather and Henry David Thoreau, as well as research on integrating Service-Learning into academic curricula. An advocate for social and environmental causes, Gustke works to promote sustainable food systems, educational equity, and the preservation of Willa Cather’s literary legacy. She is currently writing her first book, *Dark Autumn: Willa Cather, Whiteness, and the American Class System*, which is under contract with the University of Nebraska Press.

**William R. Handley** teaches at the University of Southern California. His paper is part of his book *Horizons of Catastrophe in the American West*, to be published by the University of Nebraska Press in 2026.

**Barry Hudek** is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He completed a dissertation on Modernist’s use of the Bible at the University of Mississippi in 2017. Currently, he teaches mostly first-year composition classes and some lit classes. Most recently, his work on Cather and Black liberation theology appeared in *Unsettling Cather*.

**Sarah Jane Kerwin** received her PhD in English Language and Literature from the University of Michigan in 2023 and is currently a visiting assistant professor of English at Oberlin College, where she teaches classes in American literature and ecocriticism. Her book-in-progress, *Coming and Going to Know a Place: Transience in Literature of the US West*, takes an ecocritical approach to literary representations of movement and impermanence. This project engages with the ways transience in the West has historically gone hand-in-hand with settler colonialism, resource extraction, displacement, and escapism while also exploring the generative ecological potential of temporary place relationships.

**Mark Madigan** is Professor of English at Nazareth University in Rochester, New York, where he holds the Rosemary White Endowed Chair in Literature. He is the historical editor of the Willa Cather Scholarly Edition of *Youth and the Bright Medusa* and the author of many articles on Cather and other American writers. He was a Fulbright Scholar in Slovenia and a Fulbright Specialist in Croatia.

**Tim Maxwell** earned his MA in English from U.C. Berkeley and his M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Oregon, and for nearly 30 years has taught composition, creative writing, and American literature, primarily in the community college. He is currently a professor of English at College of San Mateo, south of San Francisco. In addition to creative work, he has pursued research interests in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century American literature, especially the transatlantic conversations that inspired American Modernism. He is currently working on a book—expanding on the presentation he gave in Red Cloud in 2024—that focuses on Willa Cather’s early fiction, especially “Paul’s Case.” He lives in Menlo Park, CA with his wife Heather.

**Richard Millington** is the Helen and Laura Shedd Professor Emeritus of English Language and Literature at Smith College. He is the author of *Practicing Romance: Narrative Form and Cultural Engagement in Hawthorne’s Fiction*; he is also the editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Nathaniel Hawthorne* and the Norton Critical Edition of Hawthorne’s *The Blithedale Romance*. He is the author of several articles on Willa Cather, each exploring an aspect of her distinctive American modernism.

**Naima Bilal Minhas** is a Fulbright PhD scholar in Creative Writing at Western Michigan University. As author of *Takatu Nights & Other Stories*, Pakistan’s inaugural short story collection, she has garnered international recognition. Represented at the Digital Humanities conference in Australia, her work bridges cultural divides. Bilal’s research interests span Young Adult literature and comparative analysis of American and Pakistani literature. With a passion for storytelling and intercultural exchange, she navigates the intersections of identity, culture, and creativity. Her scholarship embodies the transformative power of literature, fostering global understanding and inspiring new narratives.

**Joseph C. Murphy** is Professor of English at Fu Jen Catholic University. His essays on Cather and other American writers have appeared in *Cather Studies*, *Willa Cather Review*, *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, *American Literary Scholarship*, and other journals and collections, including *Willa Cather and Aestheticism* and *Violence, the Arts, and Willa Cather*. His book project, *Willa Cather and the Spectacle of Modernity*, situates Cather in relation to emerging modern cultures of spectacle and performance.

**Daryl W. Palmer** is Professor of English at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. His most recent book is *Becoming Willa Cather: Creation and Career* (2019). His articles on Willa Cather and the American West have appeared in journals such as *American Literary Realism*, *Great Plains Quarterly*, *Kansas History*, *Theory & Event*, and *Willa Cather Review*.

**David McKay Powell** is Interim Provost of Union Commonwealth University and an erstwhile English professor. His academic writing, including his book *Cather and Opera* (LSU, 2022), focuses on the intersections of classical music and American literature.

**Emily J. Rau** is an Assistant Professor of Digital Humanities at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the editor of the Willa Cather Archive. She is the editor of the forthcoming special issue of *Western American Literature* titled “Unsettling Willa Cather’s Wests,” slated for publication in Summer 2025. She also serves as the book review editor for *Western American Literature* and is on the Executive Council of the Western Literature Association. Her work on Cather has appeared in the *Willa Cather Review*, *Modernism/modernity*, and *In the Country of Lost Borders: New Critical Essays on My Ántonia*.



**LaVona Reeves**, Professor of English & Gender Studies at Eastern Washington University, is a University of Nebraska alumna who has taught Cather’s Nebraska novels at Osaka University in Japan and at Harvard. She has presented on *One of Ours* at the International Cather Seminar in France, on *My Ántonia* and Self-Compassion in Ireland, and on The Triangle Factory Fire in the Cather Seminar in NYC. She was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant to do archival work on Cather at UNL and in Red Cloud.

**Lexus Root** is an English doctoral student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he works as an editorial assistant for the Willa Cather Archive. He is interested in Cather’s compositional process, especially changes that Cather, Edith Lewis, and others made to her writing prior to publication.

**Michael Schueth** is a Professor of English at Collin College in Plano, Texas, where he teaches composition and technical writing courses. His 2005 dissertation focused on Willa Cather and the development of American celebrity literary culture.

**Benjamin Seigle** is a Ph.D. candidate in the English department at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His dissertation is on the Jewish question and empire in the twentieth-century American novel.

**Steve Shively** retired after a career as a high school and university teacher. Long involved with Cather Studies and the Willa Cather Foundation, he served on the Board of Governors for 22 years. His Cather work has included editing and essays on teaching, religion, and popular culture.

**Ariel Clark Silver** is Assistant Professor of English at Southern Virginia University. She recently held the Alyson R. Miller Fellowship from the Massachusetts Historical Society and currently serves as the President of the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society. She has presented work on Willa Cather at conferences in Ireland and New York and participated in the NEH Summer Institute on Willa Cather: Place and Archive in 2023. She is the author of *The Book of Esther and the Typology of Female Transfiguration in American Literature* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2018) and has published in numerous other edited collections and journals, including *RFEA*, *EJAS*, *Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, and *Leviathan*.

**Robert Thacker** is Professor of Canadian Studies and English Emeritus, St. Lawrence University. A longtime Cather scholar, he is the current Past President of the Foundation’s Board of Governors and coeditor of the *Willa Cather Review*. In 2023, Thacker was awarded the Donner Medal in Canadian Studies for distinguished achievement in scholarship by the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS). His *Alice Munro’s Late Style: “Writing is the Final Thing”* was published in 2023 by Bloomsbury Academic.

**Nathan Tye** is an associate professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, where he is the Nebraska history specialist. A historian of Great Plains labor history and culture, he is also a committed literary historian and has published on Walt Whitman, Wright Morris, Mari Sandoz, and, of course, Willa Cather. A member of the Mari Sandoz Society board, he is a frequent contributor to the *Willa Cather Review*. His article on Cather’s copy of Ferris Greenslet’s memoir is forthcoming in the summer issue.

**Dr. Kim Vanderlaan** earned her Ph.D. in American Literature from University of Delaware. She is a professor of English at Pennsylvania Western U., where she teaches a variety of classes. She has published in *Western American Literature*, *American Literary Realism*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Cather Studies*, and other journals.

**Beth Vigoren** is a first-generation college graduate and PhD candidate in Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her fiction explores themes of identity, resilience, and place through the lens of rural women. Drawing on her background, her research examines rural representation in literature through time. Beth is currently working on her dissertation, *Your Ántonia*, a historical fiction counternarrative that reimagines Willa Cather’s *My Ántonia* through the perspective of Ántonia herself.

**Peter Wilson** is a PhD student focusing in Literary and Cultural Studies, with an interest in witchcraft literature. He holds dual B.A.s in English and Philosophy from Colorado State University.

**Kathryn Woods** (she/they) is a doctoral student at the University of Bristol, where they hold a Graduate Teaching Assistantship. They completed their MA at the University College Dublin, and their BA at King’s College London. Previously, they worked as a lectrice at the Université de Franche-Comté in Besançon. Their thesis engages with questions of gender and translation in the literature and translated works of Willa Cather and Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette, with particular attention given to notions of queer desire and mobility. They are supervised by Professor Bradley Stephens in the French department and Dr. Shuangyi Li in the Comparative Literature Department.

**Yohei Yamamoto** completed his doctoral thesis on 19<sup>th</sup>-century writers, including Henry David Thoreau and Emily Dickinson, before developing an interest in Willa Cather as a significant figure in American environmental literature. In 2019, he spent a year as a visiting scholar at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he deepened his study of Cather’s work. He is currently engaged in a book project that situates Cather as a key contributor to American environmental literature, highlighting her unique perspective on nature and its relationship to human experience.

**Xuesong Zhou** is an Associate Professor at Zhengzhou University, China, the Deputy Director of The Center for English Studies at Zhengzhou University, and was a Visiting Scholar at University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2023-2024). Her study on Willa Cather has won the National Social Science Fund of China, having published on top-ranking Chinese academic journals a series of critical essays interpreting Willa Cather’s *One of Ours*, *The Professor’s House*, *Death Comes for the Archbishop*, and “Neighbor Rosicky.” She is also interested in theoretical studies, including Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari’s “deterritorialization,” Hannah Arendt’s “action,” theories of community, ethics of care, and new materialism.

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Melissa J. Homestead**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
**Emily J. Rau**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
**Kelsey Squire**, Ohio Dominican University  
**Rachel Olsen**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Ashley Olson**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Tracy Sanford Tucker**, National Willa Cather Center

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

**Melissa J. Homestead**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
**Emily J. Rau**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
**Kelsey Squire**, Ohio Dominican University  
**Rachel Olsen**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Ashley Olson**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Tracy Sanford Tucker**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Amy Blair**, Marquette University  
**Jason R. Puskar**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

## EVENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Rachel Olsen**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Ashley Olson**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Jill Ping**, National Willa Cather Center  
**Tracy Sanford Tucker**, National Willa Cather Center



The Cather Project



The Cather Project promotes teaching and research about American novelist and University of Nebraska graduate Willa Cather at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and beyond.

Designated a Program of Excellence by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents in 2002, the Cather Project produces the Willa Cather Scholarly Edition and *Cather Studies*, supports research by UNL English department faculty and students on Cather, brings scholars from outside of UNL to present on Cather and conduct research in UNL Special Collections, and organizes conferences and other events.

<https://www.unl.edu/english/cather-project>

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A welcome retreat!

The Cather Second Home is a 6-room, 2.5 bath guest house, where the Cather family lived from 1904–1931. You and your book club, tour group, or readers’ retreat can relax and reset in this comfortable home with amenities like hostless check-in, full kitchen, and laidback outdoor spaces, with prices starting as low as \$99/room.

Book directly on Airbnb, or contact our office for group bookings.  
[www.WillaCather.org](http://www.WillaCather.org)



Join us for a very special, limited run tour, Cather After Dark, coming this October! Our candlelight tour is inspired by the dark treasures within our museum collections and dark tales from Red Cloud’s history.

October 18, 2025 only!  
[www.WillaCather.org / events/cather-after-dark](http://www.WillaCather.org/events/cather-after-dark)

NOTES

Help us tell the story!

Red Cloud's photographers—both professional and amateur—have played a tremendous role in helping to "put flesh on the bones" of the historical record. They have documented both the monumental achievements and the mundane activities in town, literally showing us Willa Cather's world.

If you have historical images of Red Cloud, would you consider donating to our collections? To learn more about how we utilize historic photos in our interpretation and historic preservation work, contact our archivist Tracy Sanford Tucker, at [ttucker@willacather.org](mailto:ttucker@willacather.org).



<https://www.willacather.org/news/annotations-photographers>

Enjoy a special evening of classical music!  
Friday, September 5 | 7:30 p.m.  
Red Cloud Opera House

Internationally acclaimed Opus 76 Quartet creates an immersive listening experience, featuring pieces written by Brahms, Wagner, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Mozart. The quartet captivates audiences of all ages and backgrounds, a clear demonstration of their commitment to the future of classical music.

Reserve your tickets and indulge in a night of music that Willa Cather herself would have loved.  
[www.WillaCather.org/events/opus-76-quartet](http://www.WillaCather.org/events/opus-76-quartet)

OPUS 76 QUARTET







## Membership

Join the Willa Cather Foundation

# Why Become a Willa Cather Foundation Member?

Because Members Make It Happen!

## Your Membership Supports

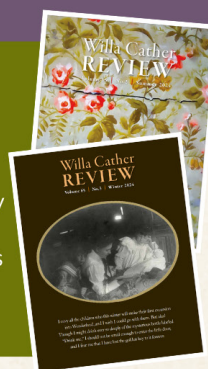
- Preservation of Willa Cather's Childhood Home and eleven Cather historic sites
- Conferences & seminars that spur scholarly research into the life and work of Willa Cather
- Preservation and display of a growing collection of archival and museum pieces
- Publication of the *Willa Cather Review*
- Conservation of the Willa Cather Memorial Prairie
- Cultural events and exhibits at the National Willa Cather Center and the Red Cloud Opera House
- Supply of Classroom resources for educators and book clubs



## All Members Receive

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- Issues of *News from Cather Country*
- Subscription to the *Willa Cather Review*
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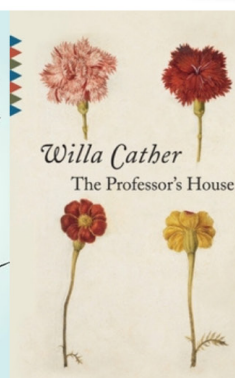
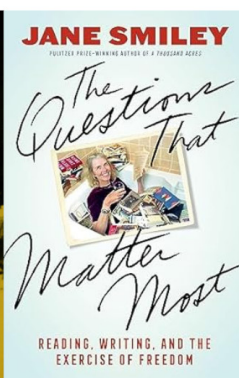
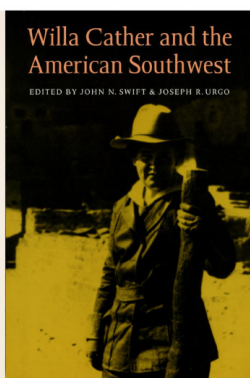
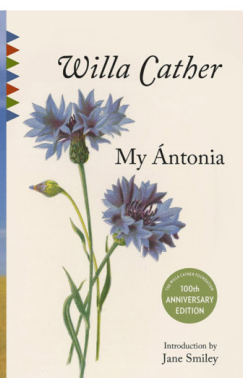
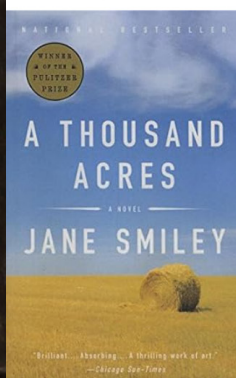
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