

VHC

VIRGINIA HUMANITIES CONFERENCE

Thursday, March 22nd

8pm: Lynn Schofield Clark, “Parenting in the Digital Age” [Colket Center Ballroom—upstairs]

Lynn Schofield Clark is the Director of Graduate Studies, University of Denver; Dr. Clark’s book *From Angels to Aliens: Teenagers, the Media, and the Supernatural* (Oxford U Press, 2003) received the Best Ethnography of 2003 Award from the National Communication Association. She is also the author of *The Parent App: Understanding Families and Media in the Digital Age* (Oxford U Press, 2012) and co-author of *Media, Home, and Family* (Routledge, 2004).

Friday, March 23rd

8:00am–6pm registration [Colket Center lobby]

8:00 breakfast [Pickle—downstairs]

8:30–10:00 panel sessions 1

1a Children and Trauma—1 [Kime—upstairs]

Moderator: Ken McGraw, Roanoke College

“The Absent Father: Richard Wright’s Use of Violent Fantasy as a Means of Psychologically Coping with Childhood Abandonment”

Clarence W. Tweedy III, University of Mary Washington

“The Face Not Even a Mother Could Love: The Child Villain”

Kirsten Clemens, Appalachian State University

1b The Loveliest Lass in the *Lotus*: A Close Look at the Naga-King’s Daughter in the *Lotus Sutra*

[Patterson—downstairs]

Moderator: John Thompson, Christopher Newport University

“Buddhism and Children: An Overview”

Hannah Mauk, Roanoke College

“Not So Fast: The Dragon’s Daughter and Female Denigration in the *Lotus*”

Micaela Cook, Christopher Newport University

“Good News for Women: The Example of the Naga-King’s Daughter”

Victoria Kelly, Christopher Newport University

“Between Yes and No: The Naga-Girl as Female Buddha”

Maggie Matthews, Christopher Newport University

10–10:15 break

10:15–11:45 panel sessions 2

2a Children of Islam [Patterson—downstairs]

Moderator: Eric Rothgery, Roanoke College

“The Concept of Childhood in Islamic Sources”

Hussam Timani, Christopher Newport University

“Writing for Children in the Arab World”

Diana Obeid, Christopher Newport University

“Narratives of 1970s Primary School Children in Turkey: Childhood and Remembering the Past”
Mehmet Sağlam, Bahçelievler Deneme High School, Ankara, Turkey

2b Approaching Theologies of Transcendence and Theodicy through the Eyes of Children in Popular Culture [Kime—upstairs]

“Children Encountering Good and Evil in Popular Film and Literature”
Kip Redick, Christopher Newport University

“The Necessity of the Child for Transcendence in Popular Film”
Mary Curry, Christopher Newport University

“Child-like Faith: The Theodicy of *The Tree of Life*”
John Scott, Christopher Newport University

2c Children and the Search for Identity—1 [Garret—upstairs]
Moderator: Martha Kuchar, Roanoke College

“Androids and Infants”
Jennifer Asselin, Christopher Newport University

“‘He Shall Go Alone’: Tarzan’s Quest for Identity”
Stan Galloway, Bridgewater College

“John Crowe Ransom’s Children”
Matthew Vail, Hampden-Sydney College

12:15 LUNCH / Dean’s welcome [Pickle—downstairs]

1:15–2:00 **POETRY READING:** “The Written Child” [Garret—upstairs]
Susan Facknitz, English Department, James Madison University

2–2:15 break

2:15–3:45 panel sessions 3

3a Children Learning [Kime—upstairs]
Moderator: Leslie Murrill, Roanoke College

“Modern Art and the Art of Children”
Joseph Dreiss, University of Mary Washington

“Knights, Ladies, and Castles: How Children Learn about the Gender Roles of Medieval Men and Women”
Whitney AM Leeson, Roanoke College

“Christian Felix Weiße’s (1726–1804) Concept of Childhood”
Ben Parrot, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Kids Say the Darndest Things: A Nativist Snapshot of Children’s Language Acquisition”
Jaeshil Kim, Liberty University

3b Fairy Tales, Fables, and Monstrosity [Patterson—downstairs]
Moderator: Dana-Linn Whiteside, Roanoke College

“Fairy Tales, Fables, and the Monstrosity of the Empowered Feminine”
Lori Underwood, Christopher Newport University

“The Wisest Child of All: Mirrored Worlds in ABC’s *Once Upon a Time*”
Mary Wright, Christopher Newport University

“Winnie-the-Pooh: Food as Small Signifier”

Kara Keeling and Scott Pollard, Christopher Newport University

3c Literature and Learning [Garret—upstairs]

Moderator: Katherine Hoffman, Roanoke College

“Following the Seam: From *Little Women* to an *Easy Course in Sewing*”

Anita Trout, University of Wyoming

“Children Inhabiting Environmental Literature: Our Last Hope for Saving the Planet?”

Diana Woodcock, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar

“Youth’s Pulp”

Jordan J. Gates, Virginia State University

3:45–4:30 break

4:30–5:30 **PERFORMANCE:** [Wortman Ballroom—upstairs]

Annie Stevens, Professor of Percussion, Christopher Newport University, with Andrea Venet,
And the Roanoke College Children’s Choir, Kim Davidson, Conductor.

5:30 informal dinner on your own

Saturday, March 24th

8am–2pm registration [Colket Center lobby]

8:00 breakfast [Pickle—downstairs]

8:30–10:00 panel sessions 4

4a Undergraduate Research in the Field of Children’s Literature and Student Success

[Patterson—downstairs]

“The Culture of Childhood as a Gateway to Undergraduate Research”

Kathryn V. Graham, Virginia Tech

“The Darkest Mark”

Orlando dos Reis, Kansas State University

“Matrimony and Motherhood: The Effects of the Wife and Mother Roles in *Harry Potter*”

Josh Thompson, Virginia Tech

4b Children and Fantasy [Garret—upstairs]

Moderator: Piper Cumbo, Roanoke College

“Ancient Egypt Meets the 21st-Century Child: An Exploration of Childhood in Rick Riordan’s *Kane Chronicles*”

Elizabeth McKagen, Virginia Military Institute

“Co-Authors?: Frank Baum’s Working Relationship with His ‘Little Tyrants’”

Dawn L. Hutchinson, Christopher Newport University

4c Children and Trauma—1 [Kime—upstairs]

Moderator: Osayimwense Osa, Virginia State University

“Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s *Purple Hibiscus*”

Chanti C. Lyons, Virginia State University

“‘Almost Heaven’: Children at the End Times in Ann Pancake’s *Strange as This Weather Has Been*”
Brenta Blevins, Radford University

“Perception of children and Childhood During the Decolonization Process in Kenya, 1945–1963”
Martha Musalia, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya

10:00–10:15 break

10:15–11:45 panel sessions 5

5a Childhood through the Lens of Freud, Disney, and Friere [Garret—upstairs]

Moderator: Esther Lee Yook, University of Mary Washington

“A Comparison and Critique of the Korean and U.S. Educational Systems Based on the Works of Friere”
Eunji Kwon, Songeun Lee and Seunghyun Angela Yeo, University of Mary Washington

“Searching for Ego through Freud’s Personality Theory: The Central Conception of Id, Superego, and Moral Anxiety in Yukio Mishima’s *Confessions of the Mask*”
Jina Song, University of Mary Washington

Anti-Feminism in Disney Animation

Ye eun Yun, University of Mary Washington

5b Children and War [Patterson—downstairs]

Moderator: Patricia Sagasti Suppes, Ferrum College

“The Invisible Victims of War: The Finnish War Children”
Sue Saffle, Virginia Tech

“Children and Propaganda in the Third Reich: Julius Streicher and *Der Giftpilz*”
Jason T. Hall, Norfolk State University

“Peace, Internationalism, and Children’s Literature”
Osayimwense Osa, Virginia State University

“Memory, Trauma, and Narrative: Interpreting Children’s Experiences of the Civil War and Emancipation”
Catherine Jones, University of California, Santa Cruz

5c Dystopias [Kime—upstairs]

Moderator: Mary Beth Mathews, University of Mary Washington

“Young Adults—Why So Serious?: An Examination of Young Adult Dystopias as a Product of 9/11”
Alexander Godschalk, Christopher Newport University

“Acceptance, Apostasy, and Actualization in Lois Lowry’s *The Giver*”
Jim Harrington, Mary Baldwin College

“Grasping the Beyond: Experience as a Moving Force in *The Giver*”
Stephanie Hodde, Mary Baldwin College

12:00–12:45 LUNCH [Wortman Ballroom—upstairs]
and Delegates meeting [Ramser-Beamer—upstairs]

12:45–2 **FEATURED PANEL: Generations of Sudanese Childhood Interrupted:
Stories of Lost Boys, Child Soldiers, and Refugees in Literature and Music**

Moderator: Susan Mead, Ferrum College [Garrett—upstairs]

Additional Panelists include South Sudanese authors Mariak Chuor and Linda Tartisio.

The birth of South Sudan in 2011 brought into sharper focus the experiences of children in this war torn nation who lost every opportunity for an idyllic childhood. Susan Mead will showcase how two children’s books and the

contemporary rap music of former child soldier Emmanuel Jal call us to become engaged in healing and peace efforts in the U.S. and Africa. South Sudanese authors Mariak Choor and Linda Tartisio will share their own stories through prose and poetry to memorialize the tragic, the heroic, and the resilient. Tartisio will add reflections on community efforts with Sudanese and South Sudanese children of Roanoke to use dance as a way to celebrate their heritage. Choor tells of being torn from family too young and escaping harm by becoming a refugee child in Virginia; he shares his vision for rebuilding lives and will sign books after the panel.

2–3:30 panel sessions 6

6a Trusting Space: Rhetorics on *Sesame Street* [Garret—upstairs]

“How Do you Tie Your Shoes?”: Ethos in Elmo’s World”

Scott Lunsford, James Madison University

“Everything Happens Here’: The Queer Spaces of Sesame Street”

Daisy Breneman, James Madison University

“Talk, Listen, Connect’: Creating a Space for Disability?”

Susan Ghiaciuc, James Madison University

6b Children and the Search for Identity—2 [Kime—upstairs]

Moderator: Katherine Turner, Mary Baldwin College

“far from all those things’: The Passage to Adulthood in Katherine Mansfield’s ‘The Garden Party’”

Karen Shaup, Salisbury University

“A Prisoner of Gateshead: Perpetual Childhood in *Jane Eyre*”

Kristin Distel, Ashland University

“Obstacles and Insights of the Natural in Frances Burney’s *Evelina* and Andrew Marvell’s ‘The Mower against Gardens’”

Courtney Flerlage, Hollins University

“Modernism’s Boys: Joyce, Hemingway, Faulkner”

Sarah Hardy, Hampden-Sydney College

6c From Jack Tales to *Heidi* at the Blue Ridge Dinner Theater; Or, Heidi’s Journey from Switzerland to Buck Mountain, Virginia [Patterson—downstairs]

Tina L. Hanlon, Ferrum College; R. Rex Stephenson, Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre; Michael Trochim, Ferrum College; Emily Rose Tucker, Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre; and Rachel K. Blankenship, Jack Tale Players

4–5:00 **APPALACHIAN STORYTELLER:** Linda Goodman [Pickle—downstairs]

Linda Goodman has told stories around the United States and on National Public Radio. She is the recipient of the Storytelling World Honor Award and the Excellence in Storytelling Award.

5:30 BANQUET [Wortman Ballroom—upstairs]

7:00–8:30 Keynote Speaker:

John Wall, “Childism: The Challenge of Childhood to the Humanities” [Pickle—downstairs]

John Wall is Chair of the Department of Religion and Philosophy, with a joint appointment in Childhood Studies, at Rutgers University (2005 Provost’s Award for Teaching Excellence). He is the author of *Ethics in Light of Childhood*, *Moral Creativity*, as well as *Children and Armed Conflict*. He is also the coeditor of a nine-volume book series, *Religion, Marriage, and Family*.