

The Ninth Biennial Slayage Conference

2022

Sponsored by

SLAYAGE: THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF BUFFY+

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF BUFFY+
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

Co-Conveners: Stephanie Graves & Cynthia Burkhead Program Co-Chairs: James Rocha & Rhonda V. Wilcox

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# WELCOME TO SLAYAGE 9!

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the 9th biennial meeting of the group of scholars now named the Association of the Study of Buffy+. "Biennial" is a bit of a misnomer this year as the last time we gathered was four years ago at the University of North Alabama (who is our virtual host this year). In those four years, both the world and this organization have struggled. The global pandemic eliminated all hopes of meeting in person for a 2020 Slayage, and most of us were so new to the idea of large virtual meetings that the thought of organizing an online conference was too overwhelming. As well, we had just begun the struggle of coming to terms with our own failings as a scholarly organization to do the work necessary to be fully inclusive, both in our membership and in the critique—or lack thereof—of representation—or lack thereof—in Joss Whedon's work. Our difficulties peaked with revelations about Whedon himself; however, this gave us the opportunity to consider how we can center the work instead of the figurehead. It has been a difficult time for our members, but the struggle has resulted in our commitment to continue being the center of study for texts related to Buffy the Vampire Slayer. And Slayage 9 is the event in which we renew our commitment to "promote the scholarship of Buffy+ Studies, focusing on inclusivity, intersectionality, and excellence."

Recognizing that virtual delivery misses much of the social benefits of academic conferences, we have tried to replicate at least a couple of the more casual "gatherings" that past Slayage participants will recognize. The conference will open Thursday evening with a Welcome and Online Trivia. Past Slayage trivia events have brought out the competitiveness in even the most reserved of our members, so it is sure to be entertaining for both participants and observers. While perhaps not so entertaining, we hope everyone will attend Saturday's Membership Meeting. If the past few years have taught us anything, it is the importance of all members giving voice to the work of the ASB+. The conference concludes Sunday at 3:30 with Buffy+ Bookers. This discussion/ question and answer session with the published authors among our members is meant to provide helpful information for those interested in publishing. This is also the time when we will announce the Mr. Pointy Award for Best Conference Paper!

We've assembled an excellent group of Keynote and Featured speakers presenting on such varied topics as Marti Noxon, TV Horror, and Horror costuming, and sessions are packed with exciting presentations from Slayage alumni and first-time participants. While virtual, we hope this year's conference provides the same rewards as Slayage attendees have experienced since our first gathering in Nashville in 2004.

And remember, "Something's coming, something, something is - is gonna happen here. Soon!"

Cynthia Burkhead and Stephanie Graves Slayage 9 Co-Conveners





One longstanding tradition at the Slayage conference is awarding the Mr. Pointy Award for the year's Best Conference Paper. This award is voted upon by the conference attendees, and any regular paper presentation given at that year's conference (i.e., not a Keynote or Featured speech) is eligible.

The award's informal name, "Mr. Pointy," derives from Buffy Summer's moniker for her favorite wooden stake.

Voting for the 2022 Mr. Pointy Award will be open Sunday, July 24, from 8:00 AM - 3:45 PM. The link for voting will be emailed out when voting opens, at 8AM CST Sunday.

## SLAYAGE 9 SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

#### All times are listed in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

#### THURSDAY, 21 JULY 2022

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Conference Welcome

Online Trivia

7:30 pm -? Virtual hang out/social hour

#### FRIDAY, 22 JULY 2022

9:30 am - 9:45 am Welcome; Formal Opening

9:45 am - 11:00 am Featured Speaker: Renee St. Louis, "Ruin, Reflection, Redemption:

Unpacking the Television Career of Marti Noxon"

11:15 am - 12:45 pm Session 1 & 2 (concurrent)

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm Lunch

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Session 3 & 4 (concurrent) 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Session 5 & 6 (concurrent)

5:15 pm - 6:45 pm Session 7

#### SATURDAY, 23 JULY 2022

9:30 am - 11:00 am Keynote Speaker: Rebecca Janicker, "Waiting for the Old Ones to Return?:

Genre Conventions and the Rise of TV Horror"

11:15 am - 12:45 pm ASB+ Membership Meeting (open to all)

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm Lunch

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Session 8 & 9 (concurrent) 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Session 10 & 11 (concurrent)

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Featured Speaker: Jolene Richardson, "Pleather Pants and Slaying Vamps:

The Art of Costume Design While Fighting the Big Bad"

#### SUNDAY, 24 JULY 2022

9:30 am - 11:00 am Session 12 & 13 (concurrent)

11:15 am - 12:45 pm Session 14 & 15 (concurrent)

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm Lunch

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Session 16 & 17 (concurrent)

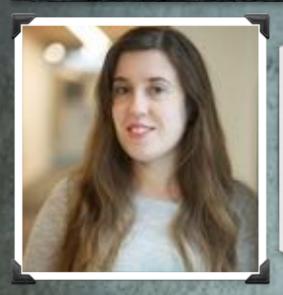
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Buffy+ Bookers: Members share their path to publishing in the field of Buffy+

Studies

Announcement of Mr. Pointy Award for the Best Conference Paper

Closing

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



#### Rebecca Janicker

is a senior lecturer in film and media studies at the University of Portsmouth, UK. Rebecca's research has focused on Gothic and horror, from its literary origins to theatre, comics, film and television. She is the author of *The Literary Haunted House: Lovecraft, Matheson, King and the Horror in Between* (McFarland 2015) and the editor of *Reading 'American Horror Story': Essays on the Television Franchise* (McFarland 2017) and *The Scientist in Popular Culture: Playing God and Working Wonders* (Lexington, 2022). Rebecca has published on weird adaptations for comics, film and for TV series such as *American Horror Story* and *Wolf Creek*, and her work has been published in journals including *Extrapolation* and *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*.

# FEATURED SPEAKERS

#### Renee St. Louis

teaches critical thinking, literature, and writing at Southwestern College, where she also serves as the coordinator of the honors program and previously as instructor of the First Year Experience program for transitioning veterans. Current and prior teaching venues include San Diego City College, National University, and UCSD. Research interests include PTSD and combat trauma, veterans in the classroom, gendered labor, domestic violence, and the depiction of mental illness in film and television. She wishes she had a clever closing line here, but it's been a rough pandemic and we're all doing our best.





#### Jolene Marie Richardson

is a costume designer and fashion historian whose work in the horror genre has spanned many platforms. You can find her design work on *The Last Drive In with Joe Bob Briggs*, streaming now on Shudder, in *Scare Package II: Rad Chad's Revenge*, coming soon to Shudder, and this past spring at UNA's production of *Little Women*. For her historian and writing work you can follow her blog *Hanging By A Thread* or online/in print for *Fangoria Magazine*. Jolene is thrilled to be bringing the costumes of one of her favorite series to life for this year's Slayage Conference, and is excited to share her lecture with you all.

# Slayage Conference Code of Conduct

The Association for the Study of *Buffy*+ welcomes you and appreciates your participation at its conferences, online forums, meetings, and functions. In keeping with the spirit of our Mission Statement, we invite diverse approaches, both traditional and innovative, to a wide array of topics focused on and relating to *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and the Buffyverse writ large. We strive to provide an intellectually and creatively stimulating environment for inquiry, expression, discourse, and learning. We are also committed to mentoring new and young academic professionals, offering both guidance and networking opportunities, and we strive for the highest standards of scholarship and professional integrity. It is our goal to foster a supportive, considerate, and enjoyable environment where critical approaches and diverse perspectives can benefit from discursive engagement. The ASB+ is committed to providing an inclusive and harassment-free environment for all, regardless of group identity. ASB+ members and all participants in ASB+ functions and events are expected to treat all persons with consideration and dignity while ensuring the robust exchange of ideas.

In order to ensure a supportive space for all while ensuring freedom of intellectual and creative expression, we ascribe to the following code of conduct. Behaviors described below are **unacceptable**:

- Discriminating against or harassing others based on race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, religion, geographic location, nationality, age, or other group identity.
- Engaging in sexual harassment or intimidation, including unwelcome sexual attention, stalking (physical or virtual), or unsolicited physical contact.
- Shouting down, threatening, or defaming others.

All participants are expected to adhere to these guidelines at ASB+ and Slayage Conference meetings and functions, on social media and networking platforms, and in formal email communications.

All attendees at conferences are expected to follow the above guidelines in all convention venues, including online and at convention social events. Speakers should frame discussions as openly and inclusively as possible and be aware of how language or images may be perceived by others. Attendees may always exercise their option to leave a session or a conversation. If a hostile altercation should arise, participants may be asked to leave and must do so at the request of a session chair or other ASB+ representative.

Attendees asked to cease any behavior that has been identified as hostile or harassing are expected to comply immediately. Should the severity of the situation warrant such action, hotel security and/or local law enforcement may be involved as appropriate, based on specific circumstances. Please report any physical assault or threats to the hotel staff, an *ASB*+ Board Member or Officer, or the local police department.

In addition, the following behaviors are unacceptable at Slayage Conferences:

- Plagiarizing or presenting material that is not your own without proper attribution.
- Sharing others' personal information or intellectual property without consent.
- Misrepresenting your rank or identity during the conference registration or presentation process.
- Failing to appear for scheduled conference presentations without notifying ASB+ leadership in the case of non-emergency.

Exhibitors must follow all ASB+ and Slayage Conference rules, regulations, and policies. The ASB+ and/ or Slayage Conference reserves the right to bar participation in organizational activities for violations of this policy.

# SLAYAGE 9 DETAILED SCHEDULE

All times are listed in Central DAYLIGHT Time (CDT)

### THURSDAY, 21 JULY 2022

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Welcome, Online Trivia, Virtual Break Rooms
7:30 pm - ??	Virtual hang out/social hour

## FRIDAY, 22 JULY 2022

9:30 am - 9:45 am	Welcome and Formal Opening
9:45 am - 11:00 am	FEATURED SPEAKER: Renee St. Louis  "Ruin, Reflection, Redemption: Unpacking the Television Career of Marti Noxon"  Moderator: James Rocha
11:15 am - 12:45 pm	<ol> <li>SESSION 1   "First vampires, now witches" History, Power Analysis, and Feminist Imagery</li> <li>Chair: Rhonda V. Wilcox</li> <li>Engeler-Young, Zelda Mars, "Tell me a story': Historicizing Witchcraft and Found Family in Buffy the Vampire Slayer"</li> <li>Yonekura, Yasmim, "The Sunnydale Witch Hunt: Analyzing the Role of Conservative Social Powers and the Framing of Women as Witch in the Buffy the Vampire Slayer Episode 'Gingerbread'"</li> <li>Wilcox, Rhonda V., "Thresholds and Glass: Feminist Imagery in Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Grimm"</li> </ol>
11:15 am - 12:45 pm	<ol> <li>SESSION 2   "More powerful than evil" Leadership Amongst Trauma</li> <li>Chair: Heather M. Porter</li> <li>Child, Louise, "Demons, Rituals, and Thrall: Magic, Power, and Authority in Buffy the Vampire Slayer"</li> <li>Porter, Heather M., "Sociopath in a Sweater Vest or The Broken Scientist in a Cardigan: Examining the Effect of Trauma on the Intelligence of Leopold Fitz and Walter Bishop"</li> <li>Albright, Richard S., "The Ant and the Elephant vs. The Slayer: Lessons in Leadership"</li> </ol>
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm	Lunch

<sup>\*\*</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "The Witch"

<sup>2</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "Bring on the Night"

#### FRIDAY, 22 JULY 2022 [continued]

, ,	
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	SESSION 3   "Thoughts and reactions that I couldn't
	understand"[3]: Explaining and Analyzing
	Chair: Madeline Muntersbjorn
	1. Warren, Jamison K., "Right, Now: The Hauntology of Atonement in
	Angel'
	2. Muntersbjorn, Madeline, "She just did the math:' Programming and
	Purposes in Firefly & Serenity"
	3. Hautsch, Jessica, "Reading 'The Body(s)"
1.15	,,,,
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	SESSION 4   "Other schools of thought" [4]: Race, Diversity, and
	Drawing Inferences
	Chair: Josef Velasquez
	1. Curry, Agnes B., and Josef Velazquez, "South of the Border: Firefly's
	Crypto-Mexicans and the Function of Genre"
	2. Rocha, James and Mona Rocha, "The Slaying Double Standard: The
	Prevalence of Structural Monster Bigotry"
	3. Rambo, Elizabeth L., "Buffy Goes BOOM!: Everything We Ever
	Wanted?"
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	SESSION 5   "You find someone to carry you" [5]: Carrying Us a
	Little Further through Comparative Analyses
	3 1
	Chair: Cynthea Masson
	1. Wardell, K. Brenna, "Working on My (Evil) Laugh: the Theatricality of
4. 14	Wickedness in Buffy+"
	2. Masson, Cynthea, "Unboxing the Reliquary: 'The Message' of <i>Firefly</i> "
	3. Torregrossa, Michael A., "'A Sunnydale Slayer in King Arthur's Court?':
	Buffy and Her Influence on Arthurian Fiction"
	,
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	SESSION 6   ROUNDTABLE: Aesthetic Strategies in Representing
	Trauma
	Chair: Alyson R. Buckman
	Buckman, Alyson R.; Pugh, Catherine; and St. Louis, Renee
5:15 pm - 6:45 pm	SESSION 7   "The dark does have its bright side" [6]: Moving Past
3.13 pm - 0.13 pm	Boundaries with Buffy+
	Domination with Dully.
	Chair: Tamy Burnett
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Y A LITTE	1 Rumott Tomy "Marti Navan's Faminiam from Puffe to Civiliza d'a Civiliza
	1. Burnett, Tamy, "Marti Noxon's Feminism from <i>Buffy</i> to <i>Girlfriend's Guide</i> "  2. Tanga Angela "Caring into the Abyes: Harass and Monsters in Crime"
	<ol> <li>Tenga, Angela, "Gazing into the Abyss: Heroes and Monsters in <i>Grimm</i>"</li> <li>Perdigao, Lisa, "We'll say hello again': <i>WandaVision</i> and the Art of</li> </ol>
	0 , , , 0
	Resurrection"

<sup>3</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "The Body"

<sup>4</sup> Firefly, "The Message"

<sup>[5]</sup> Firefly, "The Message"

All times are listed in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

# SATURDAY, 23 JULY 2022

9:30 am - 11:00 am	KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Rebecca Janicker
	"Waiting for the Old Ones to Return': Genre Conventions and the Rise of
2	TV Horror"
	Moderator: Stephanie A. Graves
11:15 am - 12:45 pm	ASB+ Membership Meeting (open to all members & conferees)
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	SESSION 8   ROUNDTABLE: Can Buffy Save Disconnected Students? Re-Engaging with <i>Buffy</i> +
	Co-Chairs: Edwards, Lynne, and Cynthia Burkhead
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	SESSION 9   "If the apocalypse comes"[1]: Liminality, Death, and Spectacle
	Chair: James Rocha
	1. Baker, Amanda, "'Religion Freaky': Use of Secular Spirituality in Joss Whedon's <i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i> "
	<ol> <li>Pugh, Catherine, "The Good Fight: The Importance of Being Doyle"</li> <li>Henrique de Souza, Vitor, "I May Be Dead, But I'm Still Pretty': Female Death as Spectacle in Contemporary TV Shows"</li> </ol>
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	SESSION 10   "Did I fall asleep?" [2]: Critiquing Racialized Depictions
	Chair: Katia McClain
	<ol> <li>Anyiwo, Uzoamaka, "'Just cause I know some car thieves, don't mean I am one':         Angel's Charles Gunn as Thug Archetype"     </li> <li>McClain, Katia, "UC Sunnydale: Situated on the Traditional, Ancestral, and Unceded Territory of the Chumash People: Where Are the Chumash Stories in 'Pangs'?"</li> </ol>
	3. Call, Lewis, "'Alien Commies from the Future': Visualizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Season Seven of <i>Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.</i> "
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	SESSION 11   Becoming Accustomed to the Impossible: Feminist Critiques
1	Chair: Valerie Estelle Frankel
1	1. Frankel, Valerie Estelle, "From Proto-Steampunk to Steampunk Proper: Firefly and The Nevers"
	2. Ketchum, Alex, "Pointed Podcast Families Raising the Stakes: Buffering the Vampire Slayer, Angel on Top, Slayerfest 98, and a Queer Feminist Perspective"

All times are listed in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

<sup>[1]</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "Never Kill a Boy on the First Date" [2] Dollhouse, "Ghost"

## SATURDAY, 23 JULY 2022 [continued]

EATURED SPEAKER: Jolene Richardson
Pleather Pants and Slaying Vamps: The Art of Costume Design While Fighting
ne Big Bad"
Moderator: Cynthia Burkhead
]

### SUNDAY, 24 July 2022

8:00 am	VOTING OPENS FOR MR. POINTY AWARD (closes at 3:45 pm)
9:30 am - 11:00 am	<ol> <li>SESSION 12   "Not Finished Becoming" [1]: Seeking the Comparative</li> <li>Chair: Steve (Janet K) Halfyard</li> <li>Campobassi, Elena, "Did we not put the "grr" in "girl"? Eminist Ethics, Gender Boundaries, and the Relationship Between Women and Nature in Shakespeare's As You like It and Twelfth Night and Buffy the Vampire Slayer"</li> <li>Halfyard, Steve (Janet K), "Rehearing Buffy: Wailing Women, Mean Girls, and the Problem of the Female-Heroic Trope in Music"</li> <li>Jencson, Linda, "Can't a Feminist Heroine be Happy: BtVS vs. Dr. Quinn"</li> </ol>
9:30 am - 11:00 am	SESSION 13   ROUNDTABLE: Does "the getting of knowledge" have to be "smelly"?" [2]: Publishing in Slayage and Watcher Junior: A Roundtable to Discuss Process and Encourage Participation  Chair: Rhonda V. Wilcox  Wilcox, Rhonda V.; Mukherjea, Ananya; Croft, Janet Brennan; Overstreet, Deborah; Wardell, K. Brenna
11:15 am - 12:45 pm	<ul> <li>SESSION 14   " to slay the dragon" [3]: Investigating Dark Destinies</li> <li>Chair: Michael Starr</li> <li>Starr, Michael, ""How does it feel to end the world?": The Dark Ecology of the Dollhouse"</li> <li>Richardson, Savannah, "The Forces of Darkness: Exploring Buffy the Vampire Slayer Through the Works of Shirley Jackson"</li> <li>Brayman, Molly, "The Sad Man Pain of Dr. Horrible: A Prescient View of Incel Terrorism"</li> </ul>

<sup>☐</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "Chosen."

<sup>[2]</sup> Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "I Robot—You Jane"

<sup>[3]</sup> Angel, "Not Fade Away"

11:15 am - 12:45 pm	SESSION 15   Bloody Throats at Midnight Mass: Analyzing Horror
	Chair: Stephanie A. Graves
	<ol> <li>Allen, Meaghan E., "'Of course It's Blood': A Sanguine Reading of Buffy the Vampire Slayer"</li> <li>Rands, Elizabeth Gilliland, ""The Hardest Thing in this World is to Live in It": Midnight Mass, Buffy, and the Burden of Morality"</li> <li>Graves, Stephanie A., "Security is a little lax since everybody got their throat torn out': Iterations on the Gothic in Marti Noxon's Fright Night and Sharp Objects"</li> </ol>
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	SESSION 16   "Shiny" at the Con: Examining the Extrinsic
	Chair: Tanya R. Cochran
	<ol> <li>Buckman, Alyson R., "Con-Man and the Lust for Love: Intra-auteurial Casting and the Paratextual Universe"</li> <li>Benson, Eric, and Juan Salamanca (co-author, not attending, "The Firefly and Serenity Experimental Timeline: A Digital Tool to Catalog, Connect, and Discover"</li> <li>Cochran, Tanya R., "'Tell Me About the Dollhouse': The Impact of Promotional Paratexts on Audience Reception"</li> </ol>
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	Session 17   "All that Matters" [2]: Libertarianism, Restorative
	<ol> <li>Justice, and Cognitive Dissonance</li> <li>Chair: Ami Comeford</li> <li>Lins, Marcella, "Slaying the State: Libertarianism in the Buffyverse"</li> <li>Comeford, Ami, ""I'm ashamed of how I treated you": Restorative Justice in Joss Whedon's Angel"</li> </ol>
3:45 pm	VOTING CLOSES FOR MR. POINTY AWARD
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Buffy+ Bookers: Members share their path to publishing in the field of Buffy+ Studies  Mr. Pointy Award for Best Paper at the Conference Announced CLOSING  Chair: Cynthia Burkhead
## Firefly "Serenity"	All times are listed in

Firefly, "Serenity"

Angel, "Epiphany."

All times are listed in Central Daylight Time (CDT)

# SC9 SOCIAL MEDIA USE POLICY

Please use the official hashtags #SC9 and #Slayage9 for all social media posts about the conference.

The Association for the Study of *Buffy*+ encourages the use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Tumblr, etc.) at the conference as a way to summarize, highlight, excerpt, review, constructively critique, and/or promote presentations and other events provided the following:

- The presenter has given permission to be cited in this manner; presenters have been asked to note at the beginning of their presentations if they prefer their remarks *not* be posted, tweeted, blogged, etc.
- Copyright law is observed.
- Verbatim material is limited to a few quotes.
- The author or speaker is referenced/ cited appropriately.

#### Examples:

- Speaker with known social media "handle": @abcxyz123 says, "Firefly is the best!" #Slayage9
- Speaker with no/unknown social media "handle": Savannah Richardson says, "Firefly is the best!" #SC9
- Shortened citation to conserve characters: S. Richardson says that "Firefly is the best!" #Slayage9 #SC9

Please keep in mind that presenters have invested time and intellectual energy in their work; professional courtesy as well as copyright laws apply. Also, out of respect for presenters and audience members, make sure your electronic devices do not disrupt any Zoom sessions.

#### We invite conference goers to:

- Use the official hashtags **#SC9** and **#Slayage9** for all social media posts.
- Follow us on Twitter at @Buffy\_Plus
- Join the official ASB+ Facebook group.
- Blog, post, and tweet about what you are hearing and seeing at the conference (keeping in mind the conditions above).
- Keep criticism constructive and focused on ideas.

#### We request conference goers refrain from:

- Using audio and/or video recording devices.
- Using photographic devices during the sessions without permission of the speaker(s).
- Using photographic devices with an active flash during sessions.
- Capturing, transmitting, or redistributing materials supplied or presented in a session, panel, or announcements and information presented in a ASB+ meeting without permission of the author(s)/speaker(s).
- Being hostile or engaging in personal criticism.
- Snarky posts. If it is not something you would say aloud and in person at a department meeting, think twice before putting it on social media.

Thank you very much for your assistance in making the social media aspects of SC9 a professional, collegial, and fun expansion of the traditional conference spaces!



# SC9 ADVICE FOR FIRST TIME CONFEREES



The Association for the Study of Buffy+ wants to warmly welcome all first-time conferees! This year, Slayage 9 is convening as a virtual conference from 21-24 July 2022. Included below is some information and advice to make your Slayage experience positive and stress-free!

#### Tips:

- Make sure you attend planned events outside of your presentation! This includes featured speakers, keynote speakers, announcements, welcomes, award ceremonies, and other sessions. These are great opportunities for you to meet other Buffy+ scholars.
- Attend the *Buffy+* Bookers panel at the conclusion of the conference! This session features members who have published in the field of *Buffy+* Studies recently, and they have a ton of great advice about the often tumultuous landscape of academic publishing.
- Don't be afraid to ask a question if something is unclear or confusing. The ASB+ and Slayage are very friendly and supportive environments that welcome newcomers!

Since we will be convening via Zoom this year, here are some tips for how best to navigate that space:

- This link takes you to the "Show Me" videos provided by Zoom: <a href="https://learn-zoom.us/show-me">https://learn-zoom.us/show-me</a>. Included on this page are videos that show you how to join a Zoom meeting, how to navigate the application while in use, and how to use chats and/or reactions.
- Within Zoom, you have the option to add and/or share your pronouns. Click this link to find out more information: <a href="https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/4402698027533">https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/4402698027533</a>.
- Finally, make sure you pay attention to Zoom etiquette. There are not a lot of rules, but observing them helps our presenters and speakers.
  - Please mute yourself when entering a room, when presenters are giving their papers, and whenever you are not talking.
  - If you are presenting, check your camera set up and background. Also, make sure your face is showing, and that your background is appropriate for a professional setting. Virtual backgrounds are also an option.
  - In the discussion session, please raise your hand, either with the hand raise function in Zoom, in the chat, or on camera. The session chair will then call on participants, so everyone does not talk over each other.
  - If you are attending a session and going to have your camera off, we suggest adding a picture to your profile so that presenters see that instead of a screen of black boxes with plain text.
  - Be as courteous and attentive to presentations as you would in person.
- When presenting, it is suggested that you consider a PowerPoint or similar visual aid for your presentation. Even just a couple of slides or a picture of your topic can help engage the audience.
- Practice your presentation/paper so that you are able to present in your allotted time.

If any issues or problems arise, please contact the Conference Co-Conveners or Program Chairs and we will do our best to address the matter promptly.

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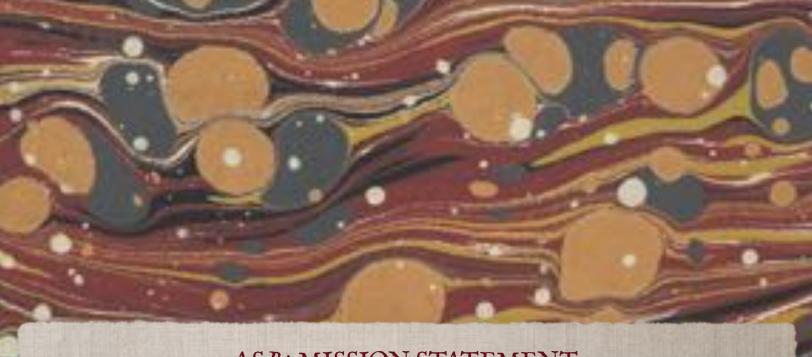
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#### ASB+MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Association is to promote the scholarship of *Buffy*+ Studies, focusing on inclusivity, intersectionality, and excellence.

We define *Buffy*+ Studies as the scholarly exploration of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and its related texts. This includes the work of the many contributors to the Buffyverse (i.e., the diegetic world of *Buffy*), transmedial or intertextual engagements with the Buffyverse, and texts influenced by or sharing thematic concerns or representational strategies with the Buffyverse writ large. We seek an inclusive critical engagement with these texts across multiple media, from film and television to comics and graphic novels, video games, paratexts, music, and more.

In a similar dedication to inclusivity, we seek to promote diversity, agency, and empowerment, both within the Association and in the larger academic community. Our goal is to give voice to the voiceless, center the marginalized, make the invisible visible, and lift up the formerly disenfranchised. As such, we work to support and amplify the voices of scholars of color, queer scholars, and disabled scholars, as well as the voices of students, early-career scholars, independent scholars, contingent faculty, and other marginalized groups. We also privilege accessibility and open access, both of which increase the reach and impact of *Buffy+* scholarship.



# Slayage