



  
*Dedicated to the Life and Works of  
Harriet Beecher Stowe*  


## President's Greeting

Dear Harriet Beecher Stowe Society Members:

As we approach a new year, Harriet Beecher Stowe's words and legacy can continue to help us navigate our own lives and contemplate new modes of being. One of my favorite quotes of hers comes from Uncle Tom's Cabin when she writes:

"Of course, in a novel, people's hearts break, and they die, and that is the end of it; and in a story this is very convenient. But in real life, we do not die when all that makes life bright dies to us. There is a most busy and important round of eating, drinking, dressing, walking, visiting, buying, selling, talking, reading, and all that makes up what is commonly called living, yet to be gone through..."

In December, my father-in-law went into hospice care, and I've often thought about Stowe's words—how persistence and love are required to navigate the challenges of everyday life: these are what Stowe's writings often reveal to us. They also remind us of the importance of legacy—how the actions, memories, and connections of those who came before us continue to shape the stories we live and the futures we imagine. The Stowe Society in 2025 is ready to embrace a New Year filled with activity, and we invite you to look back on all the living that happened in 2024 in our Society, too.

This year, for instance, the American Literature Association invites us to explore these connections through the theme of genealogy and its ties to Stowe's work and activism. How did her understanding of family history—personal, ancestral, or fictional—inform her literary vision and abolitionist advocacy? How does the concept of genealogy help us better understand the webs of connection in her writing and in our own scholarship?

We'll explore this topic in May at the American Literature Association in Boston. Likewise, the upcoming SSAWW Conference in Philadelphia, with its theme "Understanding Histories, Imagining Futures," will offer another opportunity to explore how the past informs the future. Please look for a CFP soon from the Stowe Society and consider joining us at both conferences in 2025!

Let's not forget the past, though! Inside this issue, we celebrate Stowe's ongoing influence through exciting new projects and achievements in 2024. Past Stowe Vice President Tess Chakkalalal and her colleague Brock Clarke's creative, immersive podcast *Dead Writers* brought Stowe's world to life, and we hope you listen to it! See inside this newsletter for details. Plus, read about Bettina L. Love, the 2024 Stowe Prize for Literary Activism Winner winner, and her book, *Punished For Dreaming*, which calls us to put Stowe's writing life in conversation with educational, literacy, and activism.

As we start this year, I hope we can collectively reflect on Stowe's unique ability to blend the personal and the historical, the sorrowful and the hopeful. Her legacy invites us to consider the lives that came before us—not only as stories to be remembered but as calls to action for the futures we wish to build. Thank you for being part of the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society, for your dedication to her legacy, and for the work you do to keep her voice alive.

Warmly,

LuElla D'Amico, PhD  
Harriet Beecher Stowe Society President



# Explore the Homes and Haunts of Great American Writers with Dead Writers Podcast

Ever wondered what it's like to step into the world of America's literary legends? Society member Tess Chakkalikal and novelist Brock Clarke invite you on a journey through the lives, homes, and untold stories of iconic authors in their new podcast, *Dead Writers*. This imaginative and witty series explores literature, history, home décor, gardens, and even ghosts, breathing new life into the words and worlds of famous writers.

In the latest episode, "Secret Encounter: Harriet Beecher Stowe," Tess and Brock take listeners to the doorstep of the 19th-century author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The episode, featuring Susanna Aston, recounts the gripping tale of how Stowe courageously sheltered fugitive slave, John Andrew Jackson. This pivotal act reminds us of the profound ways literature and action intersect to shape history.

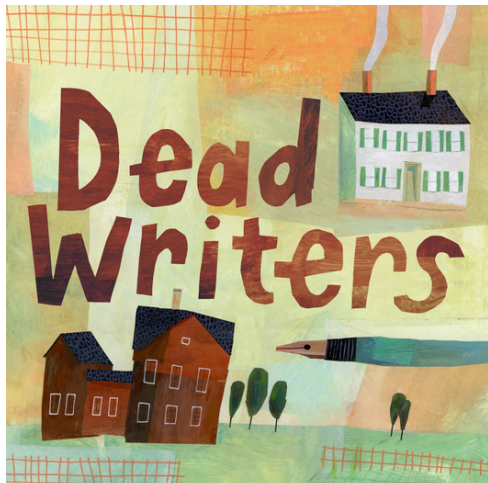
Whether you're a fan of literary history, curious about the personal spaces of celebrated writers, or just looking for an engaging story, *Dead Writers* delivers. Get ready to explore the fascinating worlds of great American writers—because some stories are too good to stay buried.



## Inside this issue:

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- President's Message
- Podcast: *Dead Writers*
- 2024 Stowe Prize Winner
- Scholar Publications
- Upcoming Events



Follow *Dead Writers* on Instagram for updates:  
[@deadwriterspod](https://www.instagram.com/deadwriterspod)

Listen to the episode here:  
[Secret Encounter: Harriet Beecher Stowe](#)

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Atassi, Sami H. *Revolting Laughter: Antebellum American Satire and the Reformation of Terror*, Indiana University, United States -- Indiana, 2023.

Carder, Danielle M. *The Literature of the Civil War: Sentimental Proto-Care Ethics and Contemporary Critique*, The Pennsylvania State University, United States -- Pennsylvania, 2023.

Conrads, Shalane P. *Literature as a Monument: Uncle Tom's Cabin Reflecting the Morality of a Nation*, University of South Carolina, United States -- South Carolina, 2022.

Davila, Natalia A. *Uncle Tom's Women: Slavery and Black Female Sexuality*, State University of New York at Albany, United States -- New York, 2021.

Downes, Kathleen. *More Than a Feeling: Materializing Sympathy in Nineteenth-Century American Literature*, The University of Mississippi, United States -- Mississippi, 2024.

Druffel, Michael. *Emancipatory and Retributive Labor Conflicting Representations of Enslaved Labor in US and Caribbean Literature, 1830-1855*, City University of New York, United States -- New York, 2023.

Hay, Genevieve P. *Women, Music, and Protest in American Literature*, Tufts University, United States -- Massachusetts, 2021.

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- Corbo, Christopher. "The "Topsification" of Uncle Tom's Cabin." *Theatre Symposium*, vol. 29, no. 1, 2022, pp. 120–132.
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- Donnelly, Andrew. "Stowe's Slavery and Stowe's Capitalism: Forced Reproductive Labor in Uncle Tom's Cabin." *Women's Studies*, vol. 51, no. 6, 2022, pp. 647–660.
- Downes, Kathleen. "Sick Sympathies: Pathological Affect in Stowe's Dred." *Women's Studies*, vol. 51, no. 6, 2022, pp. 633–646.
- Iles, Yamina, and Amine Belmekki. "Charting New Venues for Teaching Literary Texts through Black English Vernacular in EFL Context: Case of H.B. Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin." *Arab World English Journal*, vol. 12, no. 1, 2021, pp. 128–138.
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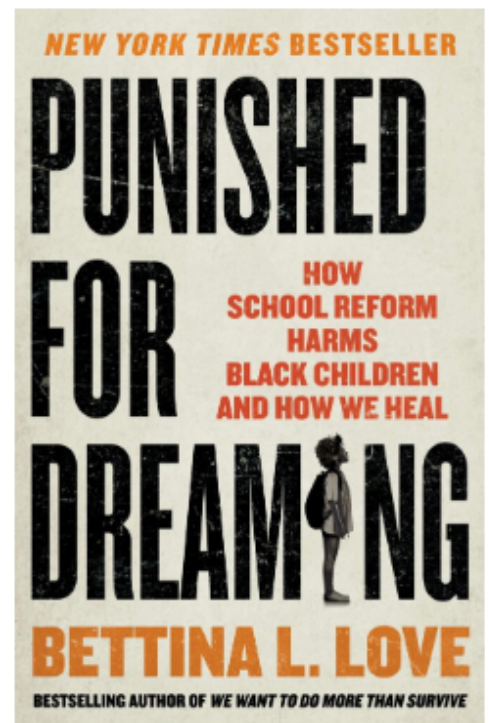
## 2024 Stowe Prize for Literary Activism Winner, Dr. Bettina L. Love

*Punished for Dreaming: How School Reform Harms Black Children and How We Heal*

The Harriet Beecher Stowe Society proudly congratulates Dr. Bettina Love as the 2024 recipient of the Stowe Prize for Literary Activism. Dr. Love, author of *Punished for Dreaming: How School Reform Harms Black Children and How We Heal*, presents a transformative vision for educational equity, advocating for reparations and justice for all children. Dr. Love holds the prestigious William F. Russell Professorship at Teachers College, Columbia University, and is celebrated for her groundbreaking contributions to education and social justice. The Harriet Beecher Stowe Society congratulates Dr. Love on this well-deserved honor and looks forward to celebrating her remarkable achievements.

According to the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center website, “The Stowe Prize recognizes the author of a distinguished book of general adult fiction or nonfiction whose written work illuminates a critical social issue in the tradition of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. The winning book applies informed inquiry, is accessible and engaging to a wide audience, and promotes empathy and understanding.”

Click [here](#) to learn more about Dr. Love’s work.



### DUES REMINDER

This is a friendly reminder to pay your Society membership dues. Dues for part-time faculty, emeriti, independent scholars, and graduate students are \$15 a year, dues for full-time faculty are \$25 a year, and lifetime membership costs \$200. You can pay by check, money order or online [here](#). Thank you for your support!

# CALL FOR PAPERS:

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## SSAWW 2025 CONFERENCE

November 6-9, 2025

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**The Histories and Futures of Harriet Beecher Stowe  
for the Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference**

**November 6-9, 2025**

**Sponsored by the Stowe Society**

**Deadline for submissions: February 17, 2025**

The SSAWW conference theme, “Understanding Histories, Imagining Futures,” is an apt description of the work of Harriet Beecher Stowe, a writer equally comfortable offering readers her interpretation of the past and promulgating a vision for the future. In both her fiction (e.g., *The Minister’s Wooing*) and her nonfiction (e.g., *Woman in Sacred History*), Stowe routinely dives into the near or distant past as a means of understanding the present. Whether she is offering practical advice for building an idealized home life, as in *The American Women’s Home*, imagining America’s racial future, as in her most famous work, or writing for future adults (that is, children), Stowe is unafraid to offer advice or, indeed, commands, for how to ensure a future that fits her moral and political vision. For this panel, we invite proposals for papers that illuminate Stowe’s interpretations of the past and/or in the future in any of her work as well as papers that consider Stowe’s own future inside and outside the academy.

If interested, please submit your paper title, a 250-300 word abstract, your contact information, and a 60-word biography to Allison Speicher (speichera@easternct.edu) no later than 2/17/25. Submissions will be reviewed promptly. Please visit [here](#) to learn more about the SSAWW conference.

# CALL FOR PAPERS:



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## Harriet Beecher Stowe Scholar Award

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The Stowe Society is excited to announce a call for papers from graduate students conducting research on Harriet Beecher Stowe. We are offering an Outstanding Paper Award to cover the conference fee and a guaranteed spot on our Stowe panel at the upcoming Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference (SSAWW).

To be considered for the award, please submit an essay (maximum of eight pages) to [ldamico@uiwtx.edu](mailto:ldamico@uiwtx.edu). Submissions should not have your name or any identifying information on them, as they will be anonymously reviewed by Stowe Society members.

We look forward to reviewing your submissions!

### OFFICERS

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