Folklore Society of Utah 2023 Conference

Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

8-8:45am Breakfast and Mingle

Session One

9:00-10:00

The Supernatural: Legends, Belief, and Vernacular Religion

Chair: Christine Elyse Blythe

1. “Expressions of the Vampire in Modern American Culture,” Logan Johnson
2. “Latter-Day Saint Skinwalker Lore as Contemporary Parables,” Zachary Wright
3. “The Folk Healing of Lorenzo Argyle,” Katie Diehl
4. “The Naked Dead: Legends of Latter-day Saint Burial,” Christopher Blythe

Session Two

10:10-10:55

Representation & the Folklore of Belonging

Chair: Afsane Rezaei

1. “Plastic Constructs: Changing Depictions of Human Difference in the LEGO Minifigure,” Drake Hansen
2. “The Impact of Names on Identity: How the Folklore of Names Creates and Maintains a Just World,” Kate Christiansen
3. “Congolese Folklore,” Micah Eastwood

Session Three

11:05-11:55

Foodways on the Ground and in the Classroom

Chair: Eric Eliason

1. “‘Good Old Times’ or ‘Damned Hard Times?’: Collaborative Subsistence Farming in Shaping Early Latter-day Saint Communities and Why We in the 21st Century Should Care About It,” Denise Jamsa
2. “Teaching Foodways: Merging the Personal and the Political,” Afsane Rezaei
3. “Frugal Feasting: Lingering Inheritances from the Great Depression,” Melanie Kimball

11:55-1:05 FSU Lunch Break @ BYU, The Commons & Foodways Trivia

Keynote Lecture

1:20-2:20

“A Mormon, Jack Mormon, and Gentile Meet in a Bar (to share frysauce…)”

Carol Edison PhD (Director of the Folk Arts Program of the Utah Art Council, retired), Lynne McNeil PhD (Utah State University), and Eric Eliason PhD (Brigham Young University)

Session Four

2:30-3:15

Literature, Music & Emotions

Chair: Denise Jamsa

1. ‘“Angel of the Prairies:” A case study in the Misinterpretation of an Early Mormon Utopia,” Rachel Helps
2. “The Emotional Impact of the Easter Bunny and Santa Claus,” Caroline McDonald
3. “Falling from the Tree: The Apple Bite, Modern Myth, and Musicality,” Rachel Alger

Session Five

3:25-4:10

Folklore and Folk Groups of the Latter-day Saint Community

Chair: Deanna

1. “The Primary Answers Reimagined: ADHD Latter-day Saint Interpretations of Scripture Study, Personal Prayer, and Performing Reverence,” Allie Rawlings & Brittney Hatchett
2. “Sisters would never do anything this stupid”: How Policy Shapes the Stereotypes of LDS Sister Missionaries,” Eve Dixon
3. “Sister Missionaries: Accounts of Malevolent Supernatural Encounters,” Paulee Shakespear

Session Six

4:20-5:20

Food and Games

Chair: Nan McEntire

1. “Boiling down Complexity: Police and Crime in a City Simulator," Samuel Rowles
2. “You Grill Girl!: Complicating Food Content with Counter-Hegemonic Food TikToks,” Drew Holley
3. “Folklore and Pokemon,” Sidney Gant
4. “Revival of the Waffle Frolic,” Emma Dunn