

Curriculum Vitae

Melinda M. Ponder

www.MelindaPonder.com

Email: Melinda@melindaponder.com

Education

Ph.D. in English and American Literature, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts,
M.A. in American Studies, Boston College
M.Ed., Salem State College, Salem, Massachusetts
B.A., Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts

Publications: Books

Katharine Lee Bates: From Sea to Shining Sea.

Chicago: Windy City Publishers, 2017.

This book is a life and times biography of how Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929) developed from a young girl “rock’d in a clamshell” in a Cape Cod village community to a graduate in Wellesley College’s second class (1880) and into the poet of the beloved “America the Beautiful.”

Hawthorne and Women: Engendering and Expanding the Hawthorne Tradition.

(Co-Editor). Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1999.

This book brings to light the many women reviewers, critics, and writers who played a part in establishing Nathaniel Hawthorne's career.

Hawthorne's Early Narrative Art: Its Origins in Eighteenth-Century Anglo-Scottish

Aesthetics. Lewiston, New York: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1990.

This book analyzes how Hawthorne took 18th-century theories of the imagination and developed his early ideas of art, his conception of himself as a writer, and his creation of *Twice-told Tales*.

Media Interviews

AZTV, Prescott, Arizona. Live television interview on the “Sandy and Friends” morning show. February, 2018.

Colorado Public Radio. Live radio interview. “How 30 Minutes On Top of Pike’s Peak Inspired ‘America the Beautiful.’” January, 2018.

WFLA, Tampa Florida. Television interview on the “Daytime” morning show. January, 2018.

WCAI, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Radio interview. “The Life of Katharine Lee Bates: Much More Than ‘America the Beautiful.’” October, 2017.

WFYI, Indianapolis, Indiana. “Author Melinda Ponder: ‘Katharine Lee Bates: From Sea to Shining Sea.’” November, 2017.

KRCC, Colorado Springs, Colorado. “America the Beautiful: How Colorado Springs Shaped A Patriotic Anthem. October, 2017.

FCTV, Falmouth Community Television, Falmouth, Massachusetts. "Conversations with Barbara Kanellopoulos—Melinda Ponder, 'Katharine Lee Bates: From Sea to Shining Sea.'" August, 2017.

Boston Community Network Channel, March 29, 2006, on "Literary Limelight": a half-hour interview about writing the biography of Katharine Lee Bates.

Monitor Radio (International short-wave station), July 22, 1993, "Origins of 'America the Beautiful.'"

Arts and Entertainment National Cable Channel, July 4, 1993, "Composing 'America the Beautiful.'"

Recent and Upcoming Presentations on Katharine Lee Bates

Book Clubs:

Wellesley, MA: March 6, 2019
League of Women Voters, Wheaton, IL: Oct. 11, 2018
Winchester, MA: March 19, 2018
Goodyear and Scottsdale, AZ: Feb. 15, 17, 2018
Centennial, CO: Oct. 10, 2017
Indianapolis, IN: Sept. 18, 2017

Libraries and Historical Societies:

Wellesley MA Public Library and Wellesley Historical Society: March 31, 2019
Newton MA Public Library and Historic Newton: Jan. 31, 2019
Collier County FL Public Library (Marco Island): Jan. 23, 2019
Massachusetts State House Library, Boston: Nov. 9, 2018
Manitou Springs, CO Heritage Center: July 5, 2018
Mattapoissett MA Public Library: June 13, 2018
Hingham MA Public Library and Hingham Historical Society: May 23, 2018
Falmouth MA Public Library: April 7, 2018
Boston MA Athenaeum: April 10, 2018
Tewksbury MA Public Library: March 6, 2018
Prescott, AZ Public Library: Feb. 20, 2018
Framingham MA Public Library: Dec. 9, 2017
Falmouth Museums on the Green: Aug. 12, 2017

Private Clubs:

Tides Club, Naples FL: Jan. 17, 2019
The Colonial Dames of America, Chicago IL: Oct. 9, 2018
The St. Botolph Club, Boston MA: Oct. 2, 2018
Union Club, Boston MA: March 20, 2018
Cambridge MA Boat Club: February 25, 2018
Lions Club, Prescott AZ: Feb. 21, 2018
English Speaking Union, Boston MA: Dec. 12, 2017
Century Club, San Francisco CA: Nov. 1, 2017
Metropolitan Club, San Francisco CA: Oct. 26, 2017

Retirement Communities:

NewBridge on the Charles, Dedham MA: Dec. 17, 2018
Brookhaven at Lexington MA: Nov. 9, 2018
Westminster Shores, St. Petersburg FL: Feb. 1, 2018
Holly Creek Life Plan Community, Centennial CO: Oct. 12, 2017
The Sequoias, Portola Valley CA: Oct. 30, 2017

National Historic Sites:

Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge MA: March 14, 2018

Longfellow House Washington's Headquarters, Cambridge MA: Nov. 19, 2018

Bookstores:

Prairie Path Bookstore, Wheaton IL: Oct. 11, 2018

Book Passage, San Francisco CA: Nov. 2, 2017

Porter Square Bookstore, Cambridge MA: Oct. 18, 2017

The Tattered Cover, Denver CO: Oct. 9, 2017

The Bookman, Colorado Springs CO: Oct. 7, 2017

Indy Reads Books, Indianapolis IN: Sept. 16, 2017

Belmont MA Books: Sept. 2, 2017

Panels:

Biographers International Organization, New York NY: May 18, 2019

Biographers International Organization, Boston MA: May 15, 2017

Colleges:

Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill MA: Sept. 6, 2017

Colorado College, Colorado Springs CO: Oct 6, 2017

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at PebbleCreek, Goodyear AZ: Feb. 12, 2018

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Prescott AZ: Feb. 20, 2018

Wellesley College Events:

New York NY: March 26, 2019

Chicago IL: Oct. 13, 2018

New London NH: June 19, 2018

Phoenix AZ: Feb. 11, 2018

Tampa Bay FL: Feb. 3, 2018

Naples FL: Jan. 27, 2018

Belmont MA: Nov. 15, 2017

College Club, Wellesley MA: Nov. 7, 2017

Silicon Valley CA: Nov. 1, 2017

Denver CO: Oct. 9, 2017

Indianapolis IN: Sept. 17, 2017

Other:

"O Beautiful!" US Postal Service Stamp Ceremony, Colorado Springs, CO: July 4, 2018

Earlier Presentations on Katharine Lee Bates:

"Katharine Lee Bates, 'America the Beautiful,' and Wellesley College," at Wellesley College, June, 2016 in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

"Katharine Lee Bates, 'America the Beautiful,' and the Boston Browning Society," at the Boston Browning Society, April, 2016 in Boston, Massachusetts.

"Katharine Lee Bates and Her Inspirations for 'America the Beautiful': Its Roots in Falmouth, Chicago, Colorado and Beyond" at the Woods Hole, Massachusetts, Women's History Month Lecture, March, 2009.

"What Does Katharine Lee Bates Have to Say to Us Today" on a Falmouth Historical Society panel for the 150th Katharine Lee Bates Anniversary Conference, November, 2009.

“Katharine Lee Bates and the Woman Question” at the Falmouth Historical Society 150th Katharine Lee Bates Anniversary Conference, August, 2009.

“Visions of America: Katharine Lee Bates in Colorado Springs” at the National Trails Day dedication of the “America the Beautiful” Trails System in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 5, 1999.

“Katharine Lee Bates: The Bates Legacy and ‘America the Beautiful’” at the Bates Family Association, 1998.

“Katharine Lee Bates: From Village Scribbler to the Nation’s Poet” at the Falmouth Historical Society, Falmouth, Massachusetts, 1998.

“Re-forming the Nation: ‘America the Beautiful,’ Regional Fiction, the Settlement House Movement and Community” at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, 1997.

“Popularizing the Poet: The Boston Poetry Scene of 1915-1925 and Its Transformation of the Poetry Marketplace” at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, April, 2002.

“Women Writers and their Publishers” at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, April, 2001.

“Women’s Literature in the 19th Century” Roundtable at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, 1999.

“‘Broad-minded, pure-hearted, and thoroughly wide awake’: Louisa May Alcott & the Publishing World of Family Periodicals” at the Summer Conversational Series, Orchard House, Home of the Alcott Family, 1998.

"Armchair Traveling in England: Nathaniel Hawthorne's *Our Old Home* and Katharine Lee Bates' *From Gretna Green to Land's End*" at the American Popular Culture Conference, York, England, 1993.

"Katharine Lee Bates: Imagining 'America the Beautiful'" at the Wellesley Historical Society and Friends of the Margaret Clapp Library, Wellesley College, 1993.

"The 'Alabaster Cities': The 1893 World Columbian Exposition in Chicago and 'America the Beautiful'" at the New England Popular Culture Association, 1992.

"Katharine Lee Bates and Hawthorne: Enlarging *Our Old Home*" at the Philological Association of the Carolinas, 1992.

"Challenging 'Manly' Imperialism: Katharine Lee Bates in Spain" at the New England American Studies Association, 1991.

Presentations Related to Katharine Lee Bates

“Longfellow and the Nineteenth-Century Poetry World,” at the Washington

Headquarters- Longfellow House, May, 2016 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

“*Hawthorne and Women: Engendering and Expanding the Hawthorne Tradition-- Changing the Literary Landscape*” at the Essex-Peabody Institute, 1999.

“Hawthorne and the Woman Question” at the Bicentennial Celebration of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Birth at Salem State College, March, 2004.

“Popularizing the Poet: The Boston Poetry Scene of 1915-1925 and Its Transformation of the Poetry Marketplace” at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, April, 2002.

Presentations on Nathaniel Hawthorne:

Chair, “Shadows, Boundaries, Aesthetics, and the Anxiety of Identity in Hawthorne’s Work” at the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, June 2012, in Florence, Italy.

Chair, “Hawthorne and the Narrative Other” at the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, June, 2010 in Concord, Massachusetts.

“Nathaniel Hawthorne and Robert Browning in Florence, Italy” at the American Literature Association Conference, May 2009 in Boston.

Chair, “Hawthorne and Biography” and “Hawthorne and Nature” at the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, June, 2008 at Bowdoin College.

Participant, the Harvard Nieman Journalism Conference on Non-Fiction Narrative, March, 2007 and 2008 in Boston.

Chair, “Perspectives on *The Marble Faun*: Quests and Identities” and Chair, “Perspectives on *The Marble Faun*: Evil and Existence” at the Conference on Transatlanticism in American Literature: Emerson, Hawthorne and Poe, Oxford, England, July, 2006.

Chair, “Hawthorne and Philosophical Perspectives,” at the Bicentennial Conference of the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society, Salem, Massachusetts, July, 2004.

“The Environment as Catalyst in the Writing of Biography” at the North East Modern Language Association Conference, April, 2000.

"Authoring *Hawthorne's Early Narrative Art*" at the Boston Authors Club, 1990.

"'Magnetic Idealism' and 'Flamboyant Sexuality'": Marketing Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance*" at the North East Popular Culture Association, 1988.

"Flannery O'Connor and Hawthornean Romance: 'A Good Man Is Hard to Find' and 'Young Goodman Brown' at the North East Modern Language Association, 1988.

"The First and Last Words on Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance*" at the Philological Association of the Carolinas, 1988.

"Edmund Burke's 'Sublime' and Hawthorne's 'Young Goodman Brown'" at the North East Modern Language Association, 1987.

"Hawthorne and Raymond, Maine" at the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, Bowdoin College, 1986.

"Walking Through Hawthorne's Boston" at the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, Boston, 1984.

"Wordsworth as Biographer: The River Duddon Sonnets and Their Notes" at the Wordsworth Summer Conference, Grasmere, England, 1984.

Presentations to Pine Manor College Alumnae

"Family Ties, Knots and Bridges: Women and Their Quest for Home and Self in *The Wedding* by Dorothy West and *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, 1995

"Women and the West: *O Pioneers!*: Willa Cather's reply to Walt Whitman," 1993

"Mothers, Daughters and Literary Patterns: Sarah Orne Jewett's *Country of the Pointed Firs*," 1992

Publications: Articles and Reviews

"On Sabbatical in Egypt: I Long To Be An Archeologist" in *The Pine Manor College Bulletin*, Summer, 2007 (Vol. LVII, No. 1), 16-17.

"Spain: 'A Garden of Delight': Researching the Life of Katharine Lee Bates in Spain" in *The Pine Manor College Bulletin*, Summer, 2004 (Vol. LIV, No. 2), 14-15.

"Katharine Lee Bates: Hawthorne Student, Teacher, Critic, and Respondent" in *Hawthorne and Women: Engendering and Expanding the Hawthorne Tradition*, edited by John L. Idol and Melinda M. Ponder. Amherst: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1999, 204-216.

"Gender and the Religious Vision: Katharine Lee Bates and Poetic Elegy," in *Seeing Into the Life of Things: Essays on Religion and Literature*, edited by John L. Mahoney. New York: Fordham University Press, 1998, 171-194.

"Majestic Lyrics," *Chicago Tribune*, July 4, 1993.

"Katharine Lee Bates as Hawthorne Critic and Scholar," *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, XVI, 1 (1990), 6-11.

"The Thrill of the Chase: From Basement Archives to Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House," in *The Pine Manor College Bulletin*, Winter, 1999.

"From Cover to Cover: Hawthorne's The Blithedale Romance," *The Essex Institute Historical Collections*, Vol. 127, 1 (1990), 50-68.

"Echoing Poetry with History: Wordsworth's Duddon Sonnets and Their Notes," *Genre*, XXI (1988), 157-178.

"Hawthorne and Raymond, Maine," *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, XII, 2 (1986), 4- 10.

"A Walking Tour Through Hawthorne's Boston," *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Newsletter*, XI, 1 (1885), 8-10.

Review of *The Literary Pilgrimage of Nathaniel Hawthorne* by Noburu Saito in *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (Fall, 1997), 17-18.

Review of *New Essays on Hawthorne's Major Tales* edited by Millicent Bell in *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (Spring, 1994), 36-40.

Review of *Aesthetic Headaches: Women and a Masculine Poetics in Poe, Melville and Hawthorne* by Leland S. Person, Jr., in *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, XV, 1 (1989), 28-29.

Review of *Nathaniel Hawthorne's Tales: Norton Critical Edition* in *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, XIII, 2 (1987), 20-21.

Review of *Farewell, Dresden* by Henri Coulanges in *The Christian Science Monitor*, April 5, 1989.

Review of *Balm in Gilead* by Sara Lawrence Lightfoot in *The Christian Science Monitor*, January 23, 1989.

"Oh, To Be in London, Now that Theatre Time is Here!: Teaching EN/TH 272: Drama and Theatre in London" in *The Pine Manor College Bulletin*, Winter, 2001 (Vol. LI, No. 1), 12-13.

"Drama Comes Alive in London," *Pine Manor College Bulletin*, XXXI, 2 (1990), 13-15.

"How Are We Revitalizing the College Classroom for the 21st Century?" in *The Pine Manor College Bulletin*, Winter, 1996-97.

Current Position

Professor Emerita of English, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Positions Held

Professor of English and Josephine Abercrombie Professor of Writing,
Coordinator of Women's Studies,
Director of College Composition, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Academic Honors

Rosario Tosiello Award for Integrity in Scholarship and Social Responsibility, 2017.
Wean Fellowship, Pine Manor College, 2005-6 (An award given annually to one senior faculty member of one semester's leave for scholarly research)
Josephine Abercrombie Chair in Writing, 1999-2002

North East Modern Language Association Summer Fellowship, 1999
Wean Fellowship, Pine Manor College, 1998-99
Kellogg Fellowship, Pine Manor College, 1993-94, for outstanding service to the
College
Lindsey Professorship, Pine Manor College, 1991-1992 (An award given annually to one
junior faculty member for outstanding academic performance and scholarly
promise, of one semester's leave from teaching)
Wellesley College Horton-Hallowell Fellowship, 1986-1987
Faculty Development Grants from Pine Manor College: 1988, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1994-95,
1997, 1998-99, Summer 1999, 2003-5
Alpha Chi Honor Society, Honorary Membership, Pine Manor College
Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society, Boston College
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, Salem State College

Other Professional Activities

Consultant, University of Massachusetts Press, 2011
Member, Trustees' Education and Community Affairs Committee of the Boston
Athenaeum, 2008-2010
Advisory Board Member, the "Nathaniel Hawthorne and Salem" Website of the National
Endowment for the Humanities, ("http://www.hawthorneinsalem.org"), 1999-2004
Board of Directors, New England Foundation for the Humanities, 1993-95
Council member, New England American Studies Association, 1991-1995
Chair, Teaching the Fourth Genre of Non-Fiction Prose, North East Modern Language
Association, 1999-2000
Chair, Maximizing the Use of Literature and Writing in Interdisciplinary and
Multidisciplinary Studies, North East Modern Language Association, 1998-9
Chair, Future Directions of the College English Department, North East Modern
Language Association, 1997-8
Chair, New Pedagogies in the College Literature Classroom, North East Modern
Language Association, 1996-97
Chair, Literary Perspectives on Aging Section, North East Modern Language
Association, 1995-96
Chair, "Rap, Fans and Universities: Cultural Extremes," Popular Culture: American
Culture, Northeast Conference, 1995
Chair, American Romanticism Section, North East Modern Language Association,
1993- 94
Chair, Literature and Architecture Section, North East Modern Language Association,
1992-93
Chair, Flannery O'Connor Section, North East Modern Language Association, 1990
Chair, Hawthorne Section, North East Modern Language Association, 1989
Chair, "Formative Friendships: Margaret Fuller, Lydia Maria Child, and Nathaniel
Hawthorne," New England American Studies Association Conference, 1995
Chair, "New Women, New Worlds," New England American Studies Association
Conference, 1994
Chair, "Literary Border Clashes," New England American Studies Association
Conference, 1992
Editorial Board, *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, 1988-1991
Executive Board, Nathaniel Hawthorne Society, 1985-1988
Member, Boston Browning Society, 2005-11; Boston Authors Club, 1989-91
Consultant to Downtown Productions for their film version of Hawthorne's *The
Blithedale Romance*

