



# SAVE THE DATE

Friday, November 18, 2016 (8:30-3:00)

The English Department of Caldwell University in Caldwell, NJ is hosting an **UNDERGRADUATE** literature conference. Please encourage your undergraduate students to submit a paper on the theme:

## LITERARY LOSERS AND ANTI-HEROES

We live in a society that worships winners and equates success with virtue. So it is more than a little ironic that the characters who most intrigue us—in American literature and beyond—are often the literary losers and lowlifes, the scoundrels, malcontents and also-rans who challenge our sympathy and defy our approval. Willy Loman and Edna Pontellier, Daisy Miller and Bigger Thomas, Madame Bovary and Jay Gatsby, Bartleby and the unnamed narrator of *Invisible Man*—whether we call them literary losers or anti-heroes, their power to hold our attention and provoke our thought is undeniable.

This conference seeks to explore the nature and meaning of these intriguing characters. Recognizing that the terms *literary loser* and *anti-hero* are not synonymous, we welcome papers that focus on one or the other. Papers can address literary works written in English or available in English translation from any historical period or national culture.

Additional conference details and a formal call for papers will be provided at a later date. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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