

# College of St. JOSEPH RUTLAND, VERMONT

## Studying the Past, Defining the Future

### The Sixth Popular Culture Conference at the College of St. Joseph

#### Hosted by the Alpha Zeta Omicron Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta

In one of the most often quoted lines by Confucius, the world-renowned philosopher and scholar encourages his disciples to: “Study the past if you would define the future.” To that end, the College of St. Joseph is seeking submissions for its sixth popular culture conference, to be held April 13-14 2019 in the town of Rutland, Vermont. In the spirit of its home state of Vermont—a state renowned for preserving its long, rich history and pushing the boundaries of social progressiveness with equal vigor—the conference organizers at CSJ welcome the submission of abstracts for presentations that focus on the many relationships between preservation and progress. This conference is interdisciplinary, and we welcome a variety of approaches as well as formats, including (but not limited to): individual papers, panels, or roundtable discussions.

Presentations might address questions such as:

- What are the tensions that arise between preserving history and maintaining social progress?
- How is the tension between past/future represented in works of literary fiction (books, graphic novels, comic books), film, and television?
- What does current popular culture have to say about the balance between preservation and progress?
- How are these relationships/tensions explored in specific **genres** (children’s/YA, horror, sci-fi, dystopian, etc.)?
- How do specialty areas like graphic novels/comic books and video game culture rely on the nostalgic aspect of history in creating new cultural artifacts and narratives?

For consideration, please submit an abstract of approx. 250 words (as well as a brief bio) to [popculture@csj.edu](mailto:popculture@csj.edu). Presentations should be limited to 15-20 mins. Abstracts must be received **by Dec. 31, 2018**.



