

Affordable All-ages Academic Conference

Pippi to Ripley

Feminist & Fantastic Pop Culture

Ithaca College, April 26-27, 2019

Keynote: Nnedi Okorafor

Hugo and Nebula Award-winning Afrofuturist

Author of Marvel's *Black Panther* and Dark Horse's *LaGuardia*, YA *Akata Witch* series, award-winning children's book *Zahrah the Windseeker*; Forthcoming HBO series: *Who Fears Death*.



Pippi to Ripley is an interdisciplinary feminist popular culture conference with a focus on women, gender and sexuality in imaginative fiction for professors, grad students, undergrads and teachers. Although we invite papers on a wide variety of media, the conference has always featured a strong element of children's and YA criticism and commentary (past keynotes were Tamora Pierce and Bruce Coville). Possible topics include:

- Young female and queer characters, especially in media for young adults and children (*Akata Witch*, *Zahrah the Windseeker*, *Nimona*, *The Hunger Games*, *The Song of the Lioness*, *The Runaways*, *Lumberjanes*)
- Teaching imaginative fiction/offering imaginative fiction-based programming at all levels (*Twilight Zone* lesson planning, *Buffy*-based courses; graphic novel units, YA dystopias, children's fantasy)
- Gaming and Fan Culture (RPG outside of gender; transformative works, innovative game narratives & play)
- Superhero films/television with a special focus on differently abled and gender non-conforming characters (*Daredevil*, *Birds of Prey*, *Jessica Jones*, *Marvel Cinematic Universe*, *Agents of SHIELD*)
- Female-focused comic book series (*Wynonna Earp*, *Ms. Marvel*, *Wonder Woman*, *Pretty Deadly*, *Rocket Girl*)
- Transgender narratives and images for child and adult audiences (*Lizard Radio*, *Left Hand of Darkness*, *Beautiful Music for Ugly Children*, *Transparent*, *I Will Fear No Evil*, *Lagoon*)
- Women and gender non-binary characters in futuristic or alien worlds (*Binti*, *LaGuardia*, *Black Mirror*, *Saga*, *Bitch Planet*, *West World*, *Star Trek*, *Doctor Who*, *Babylon 5*, *Firefly*)
- Gender, ecofutures, and alien alliances in Afrofuturist Fiction (Nnedi Okorafor, Nalo Hopkinson, N.K. Jemisin, Kai Ashante Wilson, Octavia Butler)
 - Female/queer protagonists; masculinities in urban fantasy and paranormal romance (*Buffy*, *Supernatural*, *Anita Blake*, *Sookie Stackhouse*, *Clary Fray*, *Carrie Vaughn*)
- Gender politics after the apocalypse (*Who Fears Death*, *Falling Skies*, *Oryx and Crake*, *Y: The Last Man*)
- Female and queer characters in updated/adapted fairy tales (*The Bloody Chamber*, *Once Upon a Time*, *Into the Woods*, *Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters*, *Snow White and the Huntsman*, *Grimm*)
- Loving the alien & alien reproduction (*Lagoon*, *Binti*, *Saga*, *Alien* franchise, *Twilight*, *Bloodchild*)

Please send a 300-500 word abstract by January 15, 2019 to Katharine Kittredge, Ithaca College, Department of English, kkittredge@ithaca.edu.