



## 2012 SIGMA TAU DELTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

### February 29 – March 3, New Orleans, Louisiana

[www.englishconvention.org](http://www.englishconvention.org)

More than 1,000 English honor society members will gather at the New Orleans Marriott to reawaken their love of language, literature, service, and culture.

#### Early Registration: January 4 - January 25

Register online by credit card, or download a registration form to pay by check, at [www.englishconvention.org](http://www.englishconvention.org).

#### Common Reader: *Bellocq's Ophelia* by Natasha Trethewey

The goal of the common reader is to celebrate the works of our featured speakers, to provide a common text for our own reading and enjoyment, and to establish a focus for chapter activities fostering literacy and the pleasures of reading in our local communities.

#### Convention T-shirts: Purchase by February 15

Purchase your *Reawaken* T-shirt for \$10 when you register! Only a limited number will be for sale on-site.

#### Chapter Merchandise Sales: March 2 and 3

If your chapter has a T-shirt or other merchandise you would like to sell at the convention, please contact Deb Seyler in the Central Office at [dseyler@niu.edu](mailto:dseyler@niu.edu) to reserve a table and time slot on Friday and Saturday.

#### What to Wear at the Convention

Presenters should wear business attire for their presentations. For the semi-formal Saturday evening Red & Black Gala Dinner and Convention Awards, members are encouraged to wear Society colors.

#### Voting Student Delegate Reimbursement

Chapters that send a voting student delegate to the Informal Regional Caucuses on Thursday and to the Business Meeting and Regional Caucuses on Friday qualify for a \$200 voting delegate reimbursement (\$400 for chapters not in the continental U.S.A.).

#### Program Highlights

##### Wednesday, February 29

- Register and pick up a ticket for Naomi Shihab Nye's Wednesday evening event or Thursday afternoon workshop. (Registration desk open 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.)
- Attend the **Pre-Convention Literacy Celebration** featuring **Naomi Shihab Nye**, sponsored by NEHS.
- Applaud members as they read works published in **The Sigma Tau Delta Rectangle**.
- Brush off your best poem or short fiction excerpt for **Open Mic**, sponsored by Student Leadership and Alumni Epsilon.

#### Program Highlights (continued)

##### Thursday, March 1

- Attend paper and roundtable presentations.
- Participate in a **workshop** lead by **Naomi Shihab Nye** followed by a **book signing** open to all attendees.
- Learn from ΣΤΔ's most successful chapters! The Student Representatives and Student Advisors are sponsoring **workshops** throughout the convention on important chapter management and student leadership topics.
- Applaud scholarship and award winners and celebrate chapter and sponsor anniversaries at the **Awards and Recognition Ceremony**.
- Get acquainted with your Regent, Student Representatives, and other chapter members at your **Informal Regional Caucus**.
- Go to a reading by **featured speaker Anthony Doerr**.
- Participate in the **(Dry) T-shirt and Skit Competition and the Bad Poetry Contest**. Cheer and jeer while your peers recreate humiliating childhood scenes, conjure up adolescent turmoil, and expose their wounded hearts!

##### Friday, March 2

- Attend paper and roundtable presentations.
- Spend time with **featured speaker Anthony Doerr** in a **workshop**, followed by a **book signing** open to all attendees.
- Attend the **Business Meeting and Regional Caucuses**.
- Sponsors, plan on the **Regents and Sponsors Luncheon**—with **special guest speaker Emily Toth**, author of the Ms. Mentor column in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- Faculty and alumni, attend the **President's Reception**.
- Enjoy **featured speaker** and author of the **Common Reader, Natasha Trethewey**.
- Experience the sights and sounds of New Orleans at night, or stay in for an event sponsored by our **Host Chapter**.

##### Saturday, March 3

- Attend paper and roundtable presentations.
- Gain insight into **Natasha Trethewey's** writing process in a **Question and Answer Session** with the poet, followed by a **book signing** open to all attendees.
- Hum along in a **songwriting workshop** with singer/songwriter **Tom Kimmel** (sponsored by **Sigma Kappa Delta**).
- Relax with complimentary punch or purchase a drink from the cash bar at the **Student Leadership Reception** immediately before the gala.
- Enjoy the food and celebrate excellence at the **Red & Black Gala Dinner and Convention Awards**.