

Søren Kierkegaard Society

Annual Newsletter



2026

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A Letter from the Society President

The Annual SKS Banquet

Dear Friends,

We warmly invite all members of the Kierkegaard community to join us for the annual Søren Kierkegaard Society banquet, held this year in conjunction with the AAR Meeting in Denver. We are especially pleased and honored to have Vanessa Rumble, Professor at Boston College, as our distinguished lecturer for the evening. Her talk is titled: "My Listener: Kierkegaard and the Question concerning Confession."

The banquet will be held on Friday evening, November 20, 2026 at Tamayo Restaurant, 1400 Larimer St., Denver. We will begin the evening with a time for conversation and mingling, followed by Vanessa's lecture. Dinner will be served after the lecture.

We will send an invitation to register for the banquet in a later email. Details about registration will also be posted on the SKS USA website.

We hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a wonderful evening with colleagues and friends from the Kierkegaard community.

Our Programs at the American Philosophical Association



Søren Kierkegaard Society AAR Session

Saturday, November 21, 2026, 9:00am - 11:30am, Colorado Convention Center, 206 (Street Level)

Session Title: "Kierkegaard and Negative Phenomena"

This session explores the centrality of "the negative" in Søren Kierkegaard's authorship, attending to its philosophical, theological, and literary dimensions. This panel investigates the constitutive role of negation—understood not merely as a logical

operation, but first and foremost as an existential movement manifested in phenomena such as anxiety, absurdity, irony, offense, despair, and silence. Papers will be given by [Jeff](#) Hanson (New College of Florida), [Anna](#) Söderquist (St. Olaf College), and Clay Snell (Boston College).

Note also that there will also be several other papers on Kierkegaard in various sessions.

Søren Kierkegaard Society APA Central Session

Feb. 24-27, 2027, Hilton Denver City Center

Session Title: "Kierkegaard on Love, Care, and Imagination"

Richard McCombs (St. Johns College)

"The Riches of Admiration"

Ariel LaFayette (University of Toronto)

"Love Believes All Things: Two Classes of Belief in Kierkegaard's *Works of Love*"

Dante Clemente (Columbia University)

"Cavell's Kierkegaard"

Charles Djordjevic and Leah Nez (Case Western Reserve University)

"The Meanings of Silence: Kierkegaard and the Limits of Clinical Understanding"

Last Year's Activities

The past year has been an active one for many of us in the Søren Kierkegaard Society USA. Since September 2025, the Society has sponsored sessions at the APA and AAR, while many of us have also participated in major Kierkegaard gatherings at St. Olaf College and the University of Copenhagen. It has been a pleasure to meet so many of you at these events, and I hope to see many more of you in the coming year.

At the APA in 2026, the Society sponsored sessions at both the Eastern and Central meetings, with papers on new directions in Kierkegaard scholarship as well as on the theme of suffering. At the 2025 AAR meeting in Boston, the Society sponsored a session on Kierkegaard's spirituality. The Society's annual banquet followed, with Gordon Marino delivering the distinguished lecture, "Reading and Re-reading Kierkegaard on the Stages of My Life's Way."

Many members of the Society also participated in the 10th International Kierkegaard Conference at St. Olaf in June 2026. "Readings of Kierkegaard" brought scholars from around the world to Northfield for five days of papers, discussion, and conversation, while also providing an opportunity to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Hong Kierkegaard Library.

The Kierkegaard Summer Institute at St. Olaf provided another important gathering, bringing students and scholars together for close-reading groups, research

presentations, seminars, and a course focused on understanding Kierkegaard's unique nineteenth-century Danish.

In August, a number of Society members again joined colleagues from around the world in Copenhagen for the annual conference of the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre, "Kierkegaard – and Kierkegaard: Totality and Plurality." The theme captured something important about contemporary Kierkegaard scholarship: the continuing effort to understand the authorship both as a whole and in the remarkable plurality of its voices, genres, and perspectives.

I am grateful to everyone who has contributed to this community over the past year, and I hope many of you will join us again this November at the AAR and APA sessions, both in Denver this year.

Best, Brian Söderquist



FORWARD EMAIL

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