AMERICAN LITERATURE
June 18, 2013

In conjunction with the #Word: The Cooler Lumpur Festival, literary enthusiasts from all over the world are gathering to celebrate their love of literature and writing in Kuala Lumpur. This Issue in Focus provides an introductory guide to a rich repertoire of American literature and includes resources on its history and evolution. It features a diverse group American writers, poets, and intellectuals who have formed, defined and redefined American culture and identity.

COLONIAL AND 19TH CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE AND POETRY

Early American Literature 1600-1900

This webpage provides links resources from the period of 1600-1900, covering history and criticism, movements, online text collections, and writers of America’s earliest days.

History of American Literature

This bibliography offers descriptive information on the various periods in American literature from early colonial times (1607-1700) to "modern literature," which ends early 20th century. It also includes an extensive alphabetical index of authors and their works.

Wright American Fiction (1851-1875)

A collection of American fiction that attempts to include every novel published in the United States from 1851 to 1875. It features works by well-known writers such as Louisa May Alcott, Mark Twain, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Herman Melville, along with a great many forgotten authors whose works may have been very popular in their own time. The collection, hosted by the Indiana University Digital Library, currently holds 1,752 texts by 845 authors.

African American Women Writers of the 19th Century
A collection of 52 published works by black women writers that provides access to their biographies, perspectives and creative abilities of black women as captured in books and pamphlets published prior to 1920.

**Early America Digital Archives**

The University of Maryland is a searchable database that includes electronic texts and links to texts originally written in or about the Americas from 1492 to approximately 1820.

**MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE**

**American Cultural History: The Twentieth Century**

A series of Web guides for the 20th century, the guide for each decade include brief facts about the decade and events defining it, as well as links to the notable books and literature of the time.

**Native American Authors**

Provides information on Native North American authors with bibliographies of their published works, biographical information, and links to online resources including interviews, online texts, and tribal websites. The website primarily contains information on contemporary Native American authors, although some historical authors are represented.

**ONLINE PUBLICATIONS**

**Outline of American Literature**

The Outline of American Literature e-journal traces the paths of American narrative, fiction, poetry and drama as they move from pre-colonial times into the present, through literary movements such as romanticism, realism and experimentation.

**Common-Place**

An online journal sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society; it features excellent articles on American history and culture.

**Choice Magazine**

Includes information on publishers of electronic literature, library sites, Web-accessible Gopher lists, lists of electronic literature resources, and resources by period or nationality. Choice is a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

**RELATED WEBSITES**
**Poets.Org**

Maintained by the Academy of American Poets, this site includes biographies, photos, and other information on more than 200 hundred poets and some 600 poems. The site features a unique "listening booth" in which the Web reader can also hear 80 poets, predominantly American, read their own works.

**American Authors on the Web**

A very comprehensive site from Washington State University that presents a chronological listing of almost 800 American authors and includes biographical authors and/or writing samples for the majority of them.

**Electronic Poetry Center**

From Kathy Acker to Louis Zukofsky, this is a site at the State University of New York at Buffalo that contains information on the writings of more than 150 American poets.

**Internet Public Library Online Literary Criticism Collection**

A literary website containing annotations of sites and articles devoted to literary criticism and information on authors. In addition to 200 American and British authors, more than 50 international authors are featured. The collection indexes over 2,500 resources.

**Library of Congress –American Memory**

American Memory provides access through the Internet to dozens of collections of American literature. These materials, from the collections of the Library of Congress and other institutions, chronicle historical events, people, places, and ideas that continue to shape America, serving the public as a resource for education and lifelong learning.

**AMERICAN LITERATURE IN A LINCOLN CORNER NEAR YOU!**

Lincoln Corners Malaysia feature resources on American literature including fiction, poetry, plays, essays and more. Read books and periodicals on iPad and Kindle e-readers; listen to short stories both classic and contemporary via Playaways; and conduct research on these and other interesting topics through special databases available at a Lincoln Corner near you.

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