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**MLA'S SCAGLIONE PRIZE FOR FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES
AWARDED TO JILL JARVIS FOR *DECOLONIZING MEMORY*; MEGAN MOORE
RECEIVES HONORABLE MENTION FOR *THE EROTICS OF GRIEF***

New York, NY – 7 December 2022 – The Modern Language Association of America today announced it is awarding its thirtieth annual Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies to Jill Jarvis, assistant professor of French at Yale University, for her book *Decolonizing Memory: Algeria and the Politics of Testimony*, published by Duke University Press. Megan Moore, associate professor of French at the University of Missouri, Columbia, has received an honorable mention for *The Erotics of Grief: Emotions and the Construction of Privilege in the Medieval Mediterranean*, published by Cornell University Press. The prize is awarded annually for an outstanding scholarly work in its field—a literary or linguistic study, a critical edition of an important work, or a critical biography—written by a member of the association.

The Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies is one of nineteen awards that will be presented on 6 January 2023, during the association's annual convention, to be held in San Francisco. The members of the selection committee were Jonathan Keith Gosnell (Smith Coll.); Alison S. James (Univ. of Chicago); and Ellen Welch (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), chair. The committee's citation for Jarvis's book reads:

The centrality of Algeria to French and francophone literature, and indeed the importance of literature in understanding colonial and postcolonial trauma, becomes clear in this ambitious book. Considering works of fiction alongside testimonial, juridical, and theoretical texts produced in multiple languages, *Decolonizing Memory: Algeria and the Politics of Testimony* explores the “anarchival” forms of expression by which literature responds to official silences and suppressions of history. Jill Jarvis's study is a blistering indictment of state power, French and Algerian, that sought to crush and make invisible experiences from the colonial period, the war of national independence, and the uncivil war of the 1990s. Elegantly written and enriched by deep research, the book renders accessible the ghostly voices of the past to help us imagine a possible—but uncertain—decolonized future.

The committee's citation for Moore's book reads:

Megan Moore's *The Erotics of Grief: Emotions and the Construction of Privilege in the Medieval Mediterranean* adroitly explores the communal and erotic role of grief in the courtly Mediterranean. The language of mourning, frequently embodied and gendered, allows the medieval elite to imagine the contours of their communities, whether through a violent construction of agency, the eroticization of the grieving female body, the commemoration of heroic male sacrifice in narratives of battle, or the construction of an affective diaspora in tales of cross-cultural encounter. Grounded in close readings of

textual and visual objects, Moore's study also contributes to larger debates about the politics of affect. The book engages with modern theories of eroticism and transgressive desire, revealing how medieval texts can interrogate contemporary frameworks for understanding the relationships among emotion, language, and community.

The Modern Language Association of America and its over 20,000 members in 100 countries work to strengthen the study and teaching of languages and literature. Founded in 1883, the MLA provides opportunities for its members to share their scholarly findings and teaching experiences with colleagues and to discuss trends in the academy. The MLA sustains one of the finest publication programs in the humanities, producing a variety of publications for language and literature professionals and for the general public. The association publishes the *MLA International Bibliography*, the only comprehensive bibliography in language and literature, available online. The MLA Annual Convention features meetings on a wide variety of subjects. More information on MLA programs is available at www.mla.org.

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies, awarded under the auspices of the MLA's Committee on Honors and Awards, was presented for the first time in 1992.

Other awards sponsored by the committee are the William Riley Parker Prize; the James Russell Lowell Prize; the MLA Prize for a First Book; the Howard R. Marraro Prize; the Kenneth W. Mildener Prize; the Mina P. Shaughnessy Prize; the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars; the Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize; the Morton N. Cohen Award; the MLA Prizes for a Scholarly Edition and for Collaborative, Bibliographical, or Archival Scholarship; the Lois Roth Award; the William Sanders Scarborough Prize; the Fenia and Yaakov Leviant Memorial Prize in Yiddish Studies; the MLA Prize in United States Latina and Latino and Chicana and Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies; the MLA Prize for Studies in Native American Literatures, Cultures, and Languages; the Matei Calinescu Prize; the MLA Prize for an Edited Collection; the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prizes for Comparative Literary Studies, for Italian Studies, for Studies in Germanic Languages and Literatures, for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures, for a Translation of a Literary Work, for a Translation of a Scholarly Study of Literature, for African Studies, for East Asian Studies, for Middle Eastern Studies, and for South Asian Studies; and the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies. A complete list of current and previous winners can be found on the [MLA website](#).

The Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Endowment Fund was established and donated by Aldo Scaglione to the Modern Language Association in 1987. The fund honors the memory of Scaglione's late wife, Jeanne Daman Scaglione. A Roman Catholic, Jeanne Daman was headmistress of a Jewish kindergarten in Brussels, Belgium. When arrests and deportations of Jews began in 1942, she worked with Belgian and Jewish resistance units, helping to find hiding places for two thousand children throughout Belgium. She also helped rescue many Jewish men about to be deported as slave laborers by obtaining false papers for them. Jeanne Scaglione's life and contributions to humanity are commemorated in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Aldo Scaglione, a member of the Modern Language Association from 1957 until his death in 2013, was Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Literature at New York University. A native of Turin, Italy, he received a doctorate in modern letters from the University of Turin. He taught at the University of Toulouse and at the University of Chicago. From 1952 to 1968 he taught at the University of California, Berkeley, and from 1968 to 1987 he was W. R. Kenan Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 1987 he came to New York University as professor of Italian and then chair of the Department of Italian. Scaglione was a Fulbright Fellow and a Guggenheim Fellow, held senior fellowships from the Newberry Library and the German Academic Exchange Service, and was a visiting professor at

Yale University, the City University of New York, and the Humanities Research Institute of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. In 1975 he was named Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. Scaglione was president of the American Boccaccio Association and was a member of the MLA Executive Council from 1981 to 1984. His published books include *Nature and Love in the Late Middle Ages* (1963), *Ars Grammatica* (1970), *The Classical Theory of Composition* (1972), *The Theory of German Word Order* (1981), *The Liberal Arts and the Jesuit College System* (1986), *Knights at Court: Courtliness, Chivalry, and Courtesy from Ottonian Germany to the Italian Renaissance* (1991), and *Essays on the Arts of Discourse: Linguistics, Rhetoric, Poetics* (1998).