



Founded 1951

American Name Society *Bulletin*

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Call for Officers!

In 2025, with Brandon Simonson stepping into the position of President of the ANS, the position of Vice President will be open. Nominations are now open for this very important position! You may nominate any interested party; self-nominations are also accepted. The description for the Vice President position can be found on the website here:

<https://www.americannamesociety.org/seeking-new-ans-officers-for-2025/>

Please note that the following positions are also open: Allied Conference Coordinator and Member-at-Large. The application form for all open positions is online here:

<https://www.americannamesociety.org/about/apply-to-be-an-ec-officer/>

ANS Name of the Year Discussion and Vote

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Join us for our annual Name of the Year discussion! We will be nominating, discussing, and voting on eligible names in the following categories:

- Personal Names: Names of groups or individuals, including nicknames, given names, surnames, or a combination of these

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- **Place Names:** Names or nicknames of any real geographical locations (e.g., rivers, lakes, mountains, streets, buildings, regions, countries, etc.)
- **Brand Names:** Names of commercial products, companies, organizations, and businesses (both for-profit and non-profit). This category includes personal names used as brands for commerce.
- **Artistic/Literary Names:** Names of fictional persons, places, or institutions, in any written, oral, or visual medium (e.g., titles of art or musical works, books, plays, tv programs, movies, games, etc.)
- **E-Names:** Names of online platforms, websites, and movements, as well as hashtags, usernames, etc.
- **Miscellaneous Names:** Names that do not fit in any of the above five categories

The discussion will be conducted by Laurel Sutton, ANS President and Name of the Year Coordinator. American Dialect Society's Word of the Year (WOTY) nominations will be held Thursday evening with the WOTY vote in the early evening of Friday, January 10; the joint results from the ANS and the ADS will be announced Saturday, January 11, 2025.

You can nominate names via this form: <https://nick662.typeform.com/to/qiS2bXas>
Advance nominations must be received no later than December 31, 2024, at midnight Pacific.

Tickets to this event are free! Get them via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ans-name-of-the-year-discussion-and-vote-2025-tickets-1071821640379>

The URL to our Zoom room will be sent to everyone who registers for this event.

Please review previous Name of the Year reports, to better understand the type of names that will be accepted:

[Name of the Year Report 2023 \(PDF\)](#)

[Name of the Year Report 2022 \(PDF\)](#)

[Name of the Year Report 2021 \(PDF\)](#)

ANS Annual Conference

February 22, 2025 (virtual)

Registration is open for ANS 2025, which will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2025. You can register online here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/american-name-society-annual-meeting-2025-tickets-1071828831889>

The American Name Society Annual Meeting for 2025 will be held online using the Zoom platform. It is accessible via Mac or PC. The meeting will require a passcode, which will be sent via email to all registrants and presenters by February 21.

We are working hard to set up a schedule that will work globally, and this means that some presenters will be scheduled at times outside of normal working hours. The schedule will be subject to change depending on speaker availability. The Book of Abstracts will be available before the conference.

ANS Panel at the LSA 2025

Friday, January 10, 2025, 3:30 PM ET

The American Name Society is pleased to announce a panel that will be convened at the 2025 annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), which will take place on January 9-12, 2025 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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As a long-time sister society of the LSA, the ANS frequently held its annual meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the LSA. This panel will celebrate the relationship between the two organizations with three papers on the theme of names and world-building.

The panel is titled “Names and World-building in Fantasy & Science Fictional Universes,” and it features three papers on names and the fantasy genre of literature and Role Playing Games. The panel will be held on Friday, January 10, 2025 from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm in Franklin Hall 1 of the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown.

The papers in this session are:

- Richard Janda (IU – Bloomington), “Tolkien’s vs. Rowling’s Names: Historical vs. Modern Reality; Elvish vs. Humorous Inventions”
- Brandon Simonson (Boston University), “The Linguistic Function of Religious Names in the Creative World of Dungeons & Dragons”
- Jean-Louis Vaxelaire (Université de Namur) and Marine Verriest (Université de Namur), “Theirastra and Gérard: Onomastic differences between two tabletop role-playing games (RPG)”

Registration for the 2025 LSA annual meeting is now open:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/40d9411e-b965-4659-b9c3-63046eed3d4/>

For more information about the LSA 2025 conference, visit the LSA conference page here:

https://www.lsadc.org/2025-linguistic_society_america_annual-meeting

Reviewers Needed for *NAMES: A Journal of Onomastics!*

We are currently seeking new applicants to join the *NAMES* Editorial Board. Although onomastic specialists in all areas of onomastic research are welcome to apply, we have a particular need for scholars with expertise in the following areas:

- toponymy
- literary onomastics
- anthroponymy
- corpus/computer linguistics

Interested applicants should be native or near native speakers of English, have published in onomastics, and be a member in good-standing of the ANS or an allied onomastic scholarly society (e.g. The Canadian Society for the Study of Names, the International Council of Onomastic Sciences, The Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland, etc.). Familiarity with a modern language other than English is also a bonus.

As a general rule, editorial board members will not be expected to review more than two manuscripts per month. In addition, all members of the Editorial Board participate in the selection of the Best Article of the Year.

If you are interested in joining our team, please complete the application from available here:

<https://nick662.typeform.com/to/P6dzaz>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Professor I. M. Nick (nameseditor@gmail.com).

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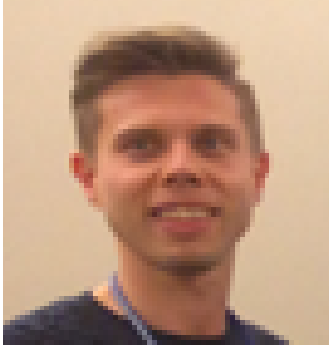
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