



**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ARCHIVES
& CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC**



**MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

WAYNE D. MCMURRAY
SCHOOL of HUMANITIES
and SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bruce Springsteen's *Born to Run* at 50

Monmouth University

September 7, 2025

Presented by

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ARCHIVES
& CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC**

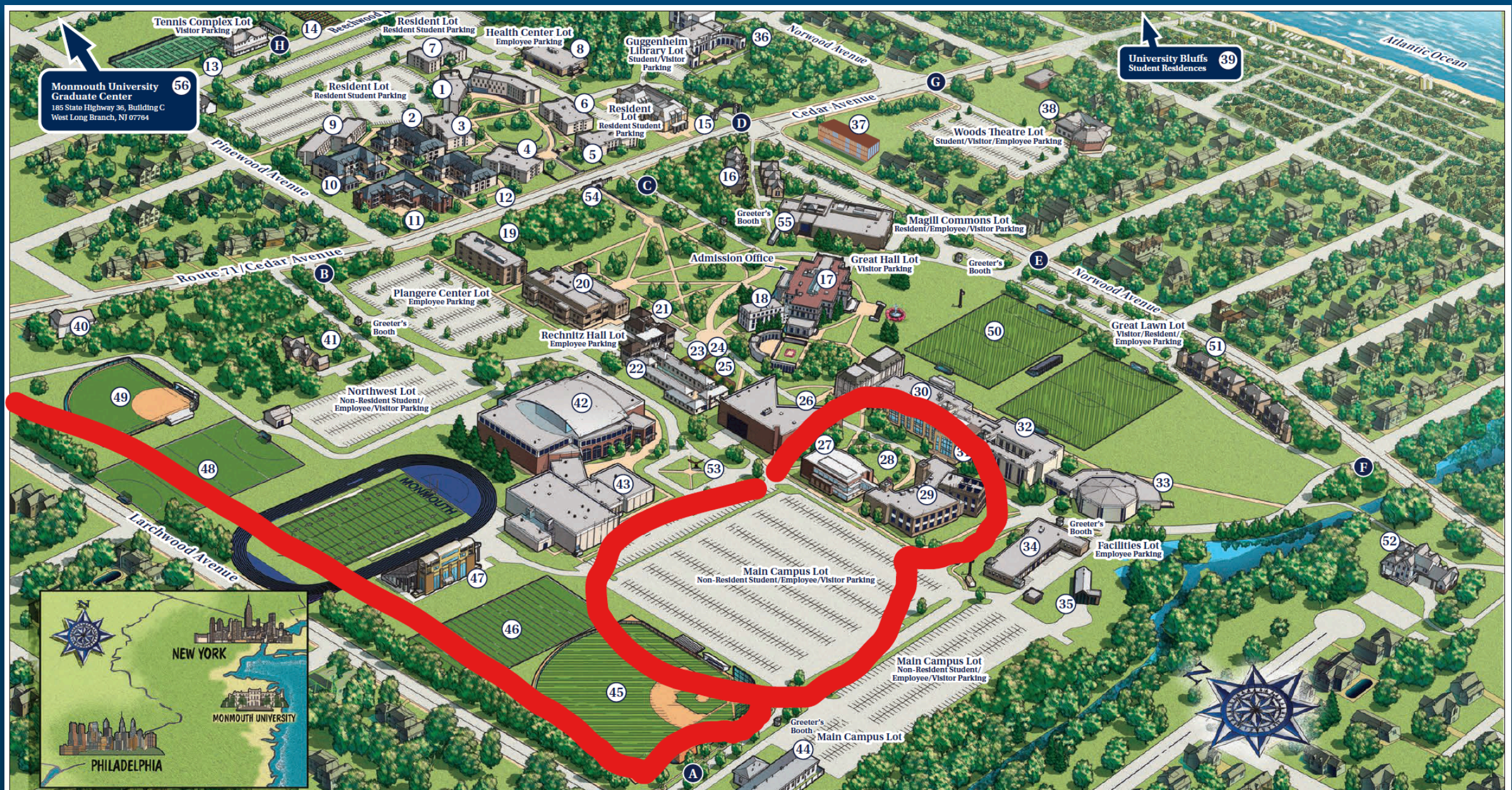


**MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

WAYNE D. MCMURRAY
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M Monmouth University Event Parking



MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY



Scan for a full campus directory



Scan to start your self-guided tour

VEHICULAR ENTRANCES

- A. Larchwood Entrance
- B. Cedar Entrance
- C. Great Hall Entrance
- D. North Campus Entrance
- E. Hesse Field Entrance
- F. Norwood Entrance
- G. Woods Theatre Entrance
- H. Tennis Complex Entrance

STUDENT RESIDENCES

- 7. Beechwood Hall
- 5. Cedar Hall
- 1. Elmwood Hall
- 16. Garden Apartments
- 51. Great Lawn Apartments
- 15. Hesse Hall
- 4. Laurel Hall
- 2. Maplewood Hall
- 11. Mullaney Hall
- 10. Oakwood Hall
- 9. Pinewood Hall
- 12. Redwood Hall
- 6. Spruce Hall
- 39. University Bluffs
- 3. Willow Hall

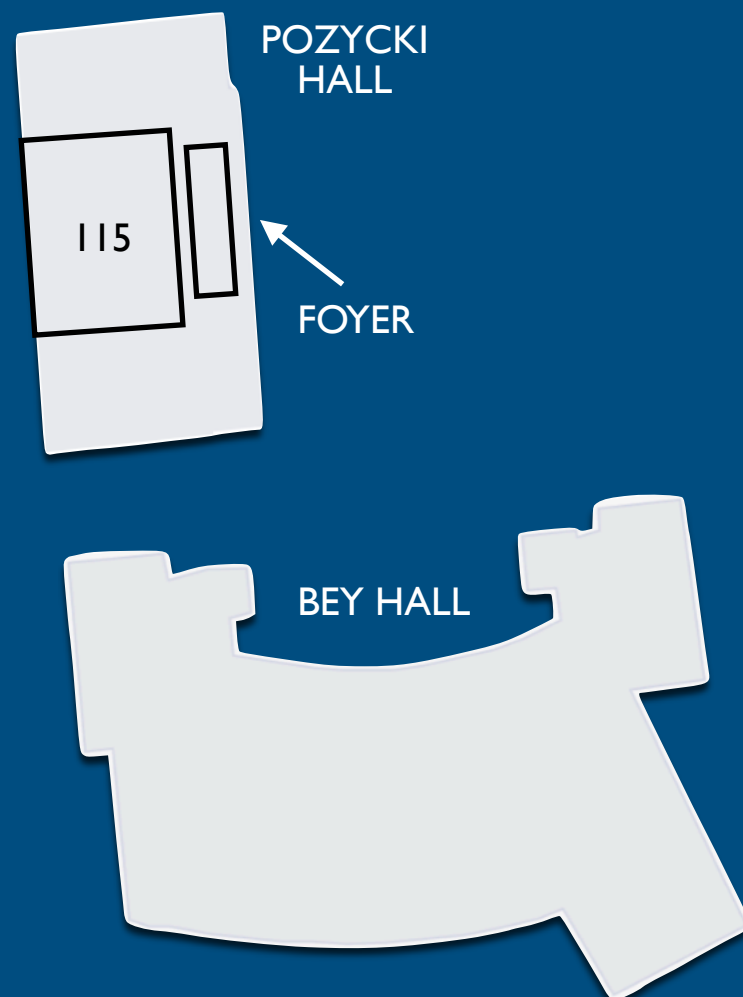
ADMINISTRATION & ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

- 23. 600 Art Building
- 25. Art Workshop
- 44. Department of Athletics
- 29. Samuel E. and Mollie Bay Hall
 - Tom Byer '67 and Susie Byer Financial Markets Lab
 - H.R. Young Auditorium
- 37. Bruce Springsteen Archives & Center for American Music - Opening 2026
- 34. Campus Planning & Facilities Management
- 52. Doherty House
- 31. Thomas A. Edison Atrium
- 30. Thomas A. Edison Science Hall
- 56. Graduate Center
- 17. The Great Hall & Auditorium
 - Academic Registration & Records
 - Admission: Graduate/Undergraduate
 - Bursar's Office • Financial Aid
 - Human Resources • Parson Café
 - President's Office
 - University Advancement
- 18. The Great Hall Annex
- 35. Greenhouse
- 36. Guggenheim Memorial Library
- 8. Health Center/Birch Hall
- 32. James and Marlene Howard Hall

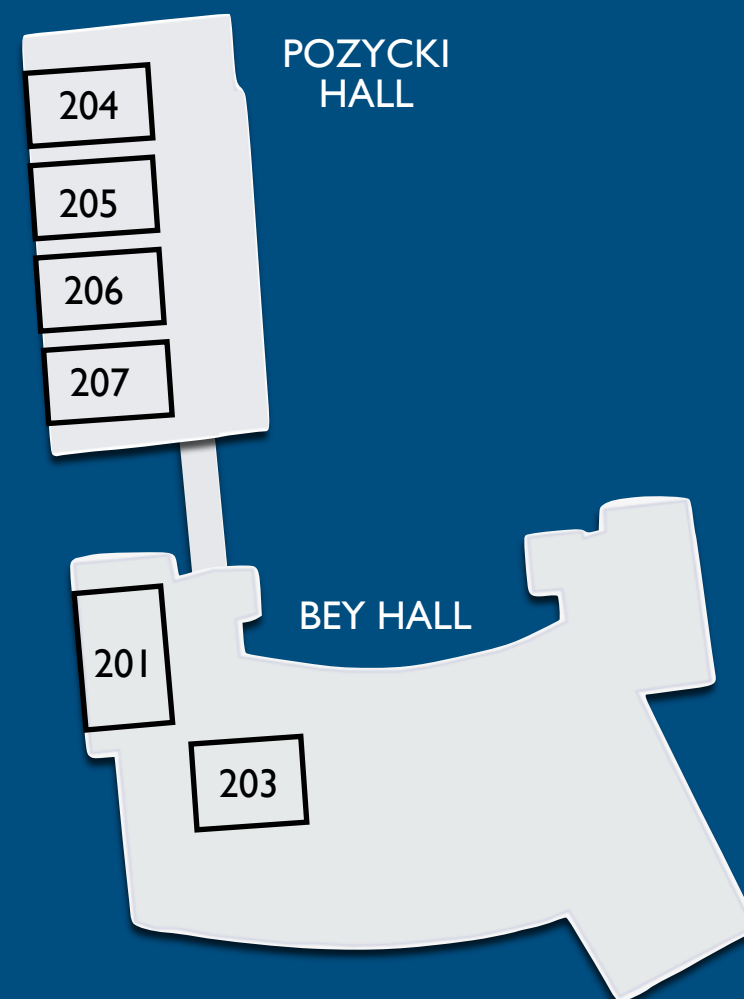
RECREATION/FOOD SERVICE

- 45. Baseball Field
- 24. Lois Blonder Sculpture Garden
- 43. William T. Boylan Gymnasium and Richard E. Steadman Natatorium
 - Ciniello Family Bowling Center
- 53. Brockriede Common
- 14. Virginia A. Cory Community Garden
- 50. Hesse Field on the Great Lawn
- 47. Henni Kantor Kessler & John H. Kessler Stadium
 - Joe Compagni Track
 - Paul & Diane Doherty Hospitality Deck
- 55. Samuel Hays Magill Commons
 - Dining Hall • Intercultural Center
- 42. OceanFirst Bank Center
 - Box Office
 - Dr. Marilyn A. McNeil Arena
 - Fitness Center • Henni Kantor Kessler Varsity Club
 - University Store
- 46. Practice Field
- 26. Rebecca Stafford Student Center
 - Anacon Hall • Food Court • Nagy Common
- 49. Softball Field
- 48. "So Sweet A Cat" Field
- 54. Swannack Crossing
- 13. Tennis Complex
- 28. Torcivia Common

M Pozycki Hall & Bey Hall Floor Plans



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

MU
MAPS:



Schedule

8:00-9:00 AM Registration POZYCKI FOYER

9:00-9:15 AM Opening Remarks POZYCKI 115
David Hamilton Golland, Dean, Wayne D. McMurray
School of Humanities & Social Sciences
Kenneth Womack, Professor of English & Popular Music

9:30-10:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

1. Sound Decisions: Mastering **Born to Run** POZYCKI 115
Heidi Cron—An Interview with Mastering Engineer Greg Calbi

2. **Born to Run** at Home and Abroad POZYCKI 204
Moderator: Jakub Romaniuk

Carlee Migliorisi—Wendy Let Me In: The Unknown Story of “Born to Run”

David Wilson—Bruce Springsteen’s **Born to Run** House and His “Landlordess”

Christopher Spinks—“And finally, London is ready”: The 1975 European Tour of **Born to Run**

**Coming
Soon!**

A

**Coming
Soon!**

B

**Coming
Soon!**

C

3. Springsteen and Political Consciousness I

POZYCKI 205

Moderator: Scott McMillan

Irene Queralt Santamatilde—The Running in ***Born to Run***: An Analysis of Its Affective Politics

John Verssue—Navigating Rough Waters Ahead: How ***Born to Run***'s Full Sound and Rebellious Spirit Framed a Multi-Generational Consciousness

Patricia Hillen—A Re-Imagining of Springsteen's "She's the One"



D

4. Marketing Springsteen

POZYCKI 206

Moderator: Jesse Jackson

Tyler Maxson—The Brand Called Bruce: How ***Born to Run*** Created Unbreakable Brand Loyalty, or, The Marketing of Mythmaking, Identity, and Emotional Connection

Kathleen Rice and Andrea Hartranft—Skeleton Frames: The Paratext Surrounding Springsteen in American Newspapers



E

5. Lyricism I

POZYCKI 207

Moderator: Greg Giddings

Matthew Thomas—"Brucie dreams": Revisiting the Deindustrial Work Song in ***Born to Run***

Christine Berg—The Poetry of ***Born to Run***: Springsteen, Levine, and Hayden on "a love so hard and filled with defeat"

Greg Giddings—Lyrical Conciseness in ***Born to Run***: Bruce Springsteen's Ticket to Ride



F

6. Symbolism

BEY HALL 201

Moderator: Alex Ingebritson

Frank Falisi—"I come and stand at every door": Springsteen's Threshold Crossing

Julie Bilboe-Crane—Show a Little Faith . . . There's Magic in the Liminal Space

Alex Ingebritson—Tramps Like Us: A Behavior-Analytic Perspective on Multiply Controlled Behavior in Springsteen's ***Born to Run***

Anthony Larson—(Cognitive) Mapping the Backstreets of ***Born to Run***

**Coming
Soon!**

G

7. Stage and Screen

BEY HALL 203

Moderator: Michelle Moon

Brian Brems—"All the movies, Terry, we'd go see": ***Born to Run*** as New Hollywood Album

John DeSantis—The Music of Bruce Springsteen and American Cinema in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries

Stephanie Delaat—Born to Run, Born to Perform: The Influence of ***Springsteen on Broadway***

**Coming
Soon!**

H

**Coming
Soon!**

I

M Upcoming Events & New Releases

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ARCHIVES
& CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC**



7:00 PM

RSVP:

Conversations with Our Curator
Special Guest: writer W.P. Tandy



LISTEN
TODAY:



Available on
all streaming
platforms

11:00 AM-12:15 PM Concurrent Sessions

8. Springsteen Podcasters' Roundtable

Featuring Jesse Jackson, Flynn McLean, and Ed Rakowski

POZYCKI 115

Coming
Soon!

Coming
Soon!

J

9. Teaching Springsteen

Moderator: Daniel Willever

Toby Daspit—Teaching **Born to Run** and the American Dream in a First-Year College Seminar

Justin Lerner—Springsteen and the Self: Born to Run, Remember, and Reminisce

Donna Baker—A Runaway Americana Dream: **Born to Run** as a Harbinger of Americana Music

POZYCKI 204

Coming
Soon!

K

10. Springsteen and Political Consciousness II

Moderator: Matthew Truesdale

Patrick Kaune—**Born to Run**: Bruce Springsteen's Narrative of Hope and Struggle in Post-Vietnam America

Daniel Loughran—Dialogic Praxis: Radical Pedagogy for a Runaway American Dream

Marilisa Merolla—**Born to Run**: Bruce Springsteen and the Cold War Blues

POZYCKI 205

Coming
Soon!

L

1 1. Thunder Road

POZYCKI 206

Moderator: Julie Bilboe-Crane

Michael Kobre—The Other Side of “Thunder Road”

Ernest Sandonato—One Last Chance to Make It Real: The **Carpe Diem** Message of “Thunder Road”

Megan Rutter—“Beneath the city, two hearts beat”: Comparing the Poetic Narratives of “Thunder Road” and “Jungleland”

**Coming
Soon!**

M

1 2. Lyricism II

POZYCKI 207

Moderator: MaryAnn Janosik

Marc Gruber—Born to Run: Analyzing Tales of Community and Missionary Ambitions from a Social Identity Perspective

Renée James—“The screen door slams” . . . and Storytelling Begins: Reimagining **Born to Run** as a Musical

Kotaro Nakagaki—The Imaginations of Small Towns: Bruce Springsteen’s Literary Techniques and Narrative Poetic Styles

**Coming
Soon!**

N

1 3. Pop Culture

BEY HALL 201

Moderator: Marty Porter

Aaron Furgason—Crossing Over: **Born to Run** and the Mainstream

Marty Porter—Jimi, John, and Bruce: Record Plant Studios and the Birth of **Born to Run**

Brian Wansink—Wall of Sound, Heart of Sax: The Springsteen-Clemons Collaboration on **Born to Run** and its Broader Impact on Popular Music

**Coming
Soon!**

O

14. Springsteen's Influences

BEY HALL 203

Moderator: Jonathan Cavallero

Jonathan Cavallero—From Mean Streets to Backstreets: Bruce Springsteen, *Born to Run*, and Italian-American Ethnicity

Anthony Gangi—Pier Lights and Carnival Life: Circus, Sideshow, and Carnival Imagery as Metaphor in the Work of Bruce Springsteen

Joe Makowiecki—This Land Is Your Land: Springsteen, Seeger, and the Legacy of Woody Guthrie

Lauren Onkey—"A real student": *Born to Run* Reframes Rock History



P

12:15-1:30 PM Lunchtime Plenary Session

POZYCKI 115

Moderator: Kenneth Womack

Ashley Kahn—The Leaning: A Close Reading of the *Born to Run* Cover Photograph



Q

1:45 PM-3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

POZYCKI 115

15. From *Born to Run* to Today: A 50-Year Analysis of Bruce Springsteen's Political Themes

Featuring Christina Nemeth Mertz, Stephen Nemeth, and Leah Windsor



R

16. Song Spotlights

POZYCKI 204

Moderator: Jesse Jackson

Caroline Madden—Reconstructing “Backstreets”: Bruce Springsteen’s Personal and Artistic Transformation through Live Performance

David Seter—Bashō, That Giant Exxon Sign, Springsteen, and the Transformative Power of (Human) Nature

Matthew Truesdale—Angel on My Chest: The Desperate Dreamers of **Born to Run**

**Coming
Soon!**

S

17. Springsteen and Political Consciousness III

POZYCKI 205

Moderator: Leah Mathews

Matthew Truax—Springsteen and Identity

Daniel Willever—“In good faith”: Bruce Springsteen’s Labor Politics in Practice

**Coming
Soon!**

T

18. Fandom

POZYCKI 206

Moderator: Stephanie DeLaat

Donna Luff and Lorraine Mangione—“So many albums, but it all comes back to **Born to Run**”: The Album’s Igniting and Enduring Appeal for Women Fans

Callie Maddox—“A lightness of heart”: The **Born to Run** Tour’s Impact on Midwestern College Campuses

Arlen Schumer—On **Born to Run**: One Man’s Personal Journey in Words and Images

Mark Zarrilli—Springsteen, **Born to Run**, 1975

**Coming
Soon!**

U

19. Springsteen and Race

Moderator: Lauren Onkey

David Hamilton Golland—The White Working Class and Cultural Appropriation in Rock

Karen Trivette—Born to Relate: A Study of Race, Rhythm, and Rights, 1975-2025

Mark Bourdeau—Fast Car on Thunder Road: Pullin' out of Here to Win (or Not) with Bruce Springsteen and Tracy Chapman

Ian Seaholm—American Skin: A Disabled Police Officer and Musician's Take on "41 Shots (American Skin)"

POZYCKI 207

**Coming
Soon!**

V

20. Springsteen and Literature

Moderator: Renée James

Craig Condella—No (Jersey) Exit: Freedom and Facticity in Springsteen's **Born to Run**

Anthony D'Aries—The Evolving Dialogue between Springsteen and His Fellow Artists

John Findura—**Born to Run** as a response to **On the Road**: Springsteen's Redefinition of the American Road from a Symbol of Freedom to a Last-Ditch Avenue of Escape

James Fuller—The Big Man Cometh: Photographs and Archetypes

BEY HALL 201

**Coming
Soon!**

W

21. Artistic Identity

Moderator: Richard Grosse

Joe Albert—Developing Artistic Identity: Discovering Self and Living the Possibilities

Paul Bretzger—Bruce Springsteen: Prog Rocker

Ryan Purcell—Darkness on the Edge of Town: Springsteen and Punk Rock in 1970s New York City

BEY HALL 203

**Coming
Soon!**

X

M Upcoming Events

The Inaugural Everything Fab Four Fest Celebrating The Beatles' @ 60

November 6-8, 2025
Berkeley Oceanfront Hotel, Asbury Park, NJ

MAX WEINBERG The Weeklings JAKE CLEMONS
and more!

Special Springsteen
conference discount:



TUESDAY NIGHT RECORD CLUB

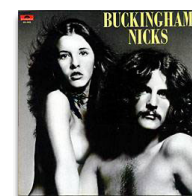


RSVP:



TUESDAYS AT
7:30 PM

It's like book club,
but with records!



3:15 PM-4:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions

22. Meeting across the River

POZYCKI 204

Moderator: Anthony Larson

Teresa Bossone—"Meeting across the River": Is Anticipation the Greatest Form of Pleasure?

Julie O'Connell—Bridges and Tunnels: Ambition and Survival in "Meeting across the River"

Leah Mathews—The Springsteenomics of **Born to Run**

**Coming
Soon!**

Y

23. Springsteen and Gender

POZYCKI 205

Moderator: Donna Luff

Julia Gorrell—Dykeness on the Edge of Town: The Spirituality of Lesbian Camp and Queering Springsteen

Damian Ference—Same-Sex Friendships in the Music of Bruce Springsteen

**Coming
Soon!**

Z

24. Modern Perspectives

POZYCKI 206

Moderator: Christopher Spinks

Richard Grosse—Born to Run, Built to Last

James Kelly—Bruce Springsteen and the Soundtrack of Life: From **Born to Run** to **Letter to You**

Benjamin Kempton—The Bruce Brand

Scott McMillan—"One last chance to make it real": Contexts and Meanings for the **Born to Run** Songs in Bruce Springsteen's 2023-2024 Tour Setlist

**Coming
Soon!**

AA

25. Springsteen and Religion

POZYCKI 207

Moderator: Heidi Cron

Eric Greene—"This is your sword, this is your shield": Springsteen Songs as Christian Hymns

Susan Illis—Bruce Springsteen's Early Catholic Experiences and How They Informed **Born to Run**

MaryAnn Janosik—Brilliant Disguise: Sin, Penance, and Redemption—The Catholic Imagination and the Music of Bruce Springsteen

Eric Moeller—Born to Run: An Expression of the Divine, Liberative Movement That Is Rock 'n' Roll

**Coming
Soon!**

BB

26. Springsteen and Literature II

BEY HALL 201

Moderator: Kathleen Rice

Anthony Gangi—Hearts of Stone: The Noir Sensibilities of Bruce Springsteen's **Born to Run**

Camille Mustachio—Born to Reign: Shakespeare's **Henriad** and the Rock 'n' Roll Mythology of **Born to Run**

Cydney Peters—Springsteen as Literature

Chiara Tolomei—"And the poets down here don't write nothing at all": The Literary Glance of Bruce Springsteen's **Born to Run**

**Coming
Soon!**

CC

27. À La Carte

BEY HALL 203

Moderator: Daniel Loughran

Matthew Dziennik—Bruce Springsteen and History

Emily Loscialpo—Spanglish Springsteen: From the Jersey Shore to Latin America . . . and Back Again

Jakub Romaniuk—**Born to Run**: Bruce Springsteen's Music and the Pursuit of Freedom in Central and Eastern Europe

Stevan Weine—Unatoned: Springsteen's Songs of Intergenerational Tensions and Traumas

**Coming
Soon!**

DD

4:45-6:00 PM

Afternoon Plenary Session

POZYCKI 115

Moderator: Joe Rapolla

Sam Popkin and Kenneth Womack—"The screen door slams / Tonight in Jungleland"

Blue Hawk Records—**Born to Run** Reimagined



EE

Closing Remarks

POZYCKI 115

Melissa Ziobro, Curator, Bruce Springsteen Archives & Center for American Music
Kenneth Womack, Professor of English & Popular Music



FF



GG

Opening in
2026

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ARCHIVES & CENTER FOR AMERICAN MUSIC

A new 30,000-square-foot building will house the Archives, the Center for American Music, related exhibition galleries, and a 230-seat, state-of-the-art theater. Designed by the acclaimed New York-based architectural firm CookFox, the building will be located on Monmouth's campus, not far from where Springsteen wrote his landmark song, "Born to Run," some 50 years ago.



Conference Steering Committee:

Bethany Dickerson
David Hamilton Golland
Carlee Migliorisi
Joe Rapolla
Kenneth Womack
Melissa Ziobro

This month marks the 20th anniversary of Glory Days: An International Bruce Springsteen Symposium, which was held on the Monmouth University campus in September 2005.

**Coming
Soon!**

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**Coming
Soon!**

II

**Coming
Soon!**

JJ

CALL FOR PAPERS

Carlee Migliorisi and Kenneth Womack will be co-editing an anthology of *Born to Run* papers for publication by Rutgers University Press. Please submit a revised version of your conference paper for consideration by February 1, 2026. Recommended chapter length will be 4,500 to 6,000 words, including endnotes and bibliography.

For more information and paper submissions, contact the co-editors:



**Coming
Soon!**

BONUS CHARACTER
IDENTIFICATION I

**Coming
Soon!**

BONUS CHARACTER
IDENTIFICATION II

**Coming
Soon!**

BONUS CHARACTER
IDENTIFICATION III



The icons in our program represent many of the songs from Bruce Springsteen's 1970s recorded output. How many can **you** decipher?



A
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BONUS I
BONUS II
BONUS III





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