

Amy STURGIS

Class of 1990

Look up the term “high levels of academic achievement” in most any dictionary and you may well find it illustrated with a picture of Great Graduate Dr. Amy H. Sturgis.

The beginnings of her glowing national reputation began in 1990 when she graduated from Broken Arrow High School With Distinction, an Academic All-Stater and National Merit Scholar.

She attended Belmont University as a Presidential Scholar and graduated as Valedictorian and Summa Cum Laude in 1993. She then earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Vanderbilt University and today specializes in science fiction/fantasy and Native American studies, teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels at Lenoir-Rhyne University and the innovative Mythgard Institute.

Outside the classroom, this Great Graduate serves on the advisory board of Mythopoeic Press and various committees for the Prometheus Awards in Literature. She is a member of the Mont Pelerin Society and the Liberty and Power group blog based at George Mason University. She has appeared as an expert in various television programs and films, and is featured in a series of online short historical documentaries that she wrote, which were produced by Ozymandius Media for the Institute for Humane Studies in 2012. Sturgis is the author of four books on U.S. political and Native American history (*Tecumseh: A Biography*, *The Trail of Tears and Indian Removal*, *Presidents from Hayes through McKinley: 1877-1901* and *Presidents from Washington through Monroe:*



1789-1825), the editor of five books on science fiction and fantasy subjects (*The Intersection of Fantasy and Native America: From H.P. Lovecraft to Leslie Marmon Silko*, *Past Watchful Dragons: Fantasy and Faith in the Worlds of C.S. Lewis*, *The Magic Goblet*, *The Magic Ring*, and *The LockeSmith Review: Great Thinkers in Classical Liberalism*), and the writer of more than 40 published scholarly and mainstream essays and articles.

A well-known and popular public speaker at universities, schools, conferences and genre conventions, she has more than 200 presentations to her credit.

In 2006, Sturgis was honored with the Imperishable Flame Award for Achievement in Tolkien/Inklings Scholarship. In 2008, she was presented a 50th Annual Southern California Journalism Award for her essay “Florida’s Forgotten Rebels: Rediscovering the Most Successful Slave Revolt in American History.” As if that were not enough, she also contributes regular “History of the Genre” features to and narrates contemporary science fiction stories for the UK-based podcast *StarShipSofa*. In both 2009 and 2011, she was honored with the Sofanaut Award in Podcasting for Best Fact Article Contributor. In 2010, *StarShipSofa* became the first podcast in history to win the prestigious Hugo Award. With her husband of 17 years, Dr. Larry M. Hall, and their very best friend, The Shire’s Virginia Lórien (a.k.a. Virginia the Boston terrier), Sturgis lives in the foothills of North Carolina. Her official website is amyhsturgis.com.

