

9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“JUSTICE AND SOLIDARITY”

MARCH 20-22, 2026 IN KNOXVILLE, TN

Keynote Speaker: Sally Scholz,
Villanova University
Title of Presentation TBD

Keynote Speaker: Avery Kolers,
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Title of Presentation TBD

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Questions of justice lie at the heart of philosophy and are increasingly relevant today. From Plato's *Republic* to Rawls's *Theory of Justice* to contemporary scholarship, we have sought to understand what we owe each other as individuals, citizens, and members of humanity. Yet justice is often treated in terms of fairness, rights, and duties, while the concept of solidarity - with its connotations of mutual recognition, shared struggle, and collective responsibility - has received less attention. Questions around the relationship between the two remain, intersecting the fields of metaphysics, ethics, political philosophy and historical scholarship.

The Philosophy Graduate Student Association at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville invites abstracts from graduate students in philosophy and other relevant disciplines that address questions of justice and solidarity. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- What is the relationship between justice and solidarity?
- Solidarity and restorative, distributive, or recognitive justice.
- Novel scholarship related to historical conceptions of justice or solidarity, especially from philosophers outside the canon.
- The role of justice and/or solidarity in addressing global or local crises, such as climate change, migration, pandemics, and economic equality.
- The ethical foundations or limits of solidarity.
- Solidarity and justice in practice.
- Solidarity and justice in non-ideal contexts.
- Solidarity and epistemic justice.

Abstracts of 500 to 750 words should be prepared for blind review and submitted as PDFs to Kaeleigh Damico at kdamico1@tennessee.edu by no later than **11:59 pm on Thursday, January 1, 2026**. Please include your name, contact information, and institutional affiliation in the email.

This event will be held in-person. Accepted presenters will be notified by late January. Full papers (approximately 3000 words) should be prepared for 30 minute presentations and will be followed by commentary and discussion. Please direct questions to Kaeleigh Damico at kdamico1@tennessee.edu