

THE NEW ENGLAND RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE
WHEATON COLLEGE, NORTON, MASSACHUSETTS • NOVEMBER 12, 2011

Expanding Relations: FAMILIES IN THE RENAISSANCE



Benozzo Gozzoli, *The Procession of the Young King*, fresco, Medici Chapel, Palazzo Medici-Riccardi, Florence, 1460

Family formed a critical part of early modern social structure yet scholars have long studied family history as genealogy—the tracing of descent and the glorification of ancestral deeds. Recent works, however, have gathered information on family in order to illuminate other social phenomena. The 2011 New England Renaissance Conference at Wheaton College, MA will examine the theme of family through various lenses such as, among others, its implications for the development of society during a crucial period of political expansion; its push for intellectual, scientific, and artistic development; and its participation in the self-fashioning of individuals. We seek to understand how ties within and extrinsic of families helped shape newly-emerging social interchanges in expanding geographic and mental worlds. We aim to investigate how family networks played a role in visual productions, collecting practices, political designs, and social rhetoric. Through this process, we hope to inject more subtlety into our understanding of the notion of family, family structure, and familial hegemony.

For more information about the conference and to submit paper proposals, please contact
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The deadline for submissions is 15 August 2011.