We are pleased to announce the 2022 Richards Award for Public Scholarship has been awarded to Krista Dalton.

Krista Dalton is an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH. She is a cultural history of religion, working primarily with the texts and traditions of ancient Judaism within the Mediterranean context. Her research analyzes the production of rabbinic expertise and cultivation of donor networks in late antiquity. Dalton is the cofounder and coeditor-in-chief of Ancient Jew Review, a web journal devoted to Jews and their neighbors in the ancient world.

The goal of the Richards Award is to honor members of the Society of Biblical Literature who have demonstrated excellence in public scholarship. It seeks to recognize the powerful role of sacred texts in society and how those texts shape culture. The award is given in honor of Kent Richards and on behalf of his mother, Eva Richards, who made a difference in seeking the common good, always encouraging the relevance of religion scholarship.

Nominees are evaluated for how they have contributed to and shaped public discourse, broadly defined. This may include writings (including op-ed pieces and blogs), websites attracting the public, public speaking (including media appearances and public lectures), teaching and mentoring, or other means through which the nominee has served the public.