Costume Society of America’s 2021 Call for Submissions

Extended Deadline: November 4th, 2020

The Costume Society of America is pleased to announce a call for submissions for the 47th Annual Meeting and Symposium which will be held virtually due to ongoing pandemic concerns. We seek research that ignites interest in the people, places, endeavors, interactions, and evolutions that are at the heart of dress and adornment. We encourage scholars to submit abstracts related to the symposium theme; however, all topics will be considered, and expansive research with interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged. Per the strategic goals of the Costume Society of America, topics which demonstrate diversity in subject matter and research, including hidden, overlooked, and marginalized topics will be strongly considered.

The symposium will explore cultural expression, collaboration, and creativity through the lens of fashion, costume, and dress practices. We aim to highlight the ways dress, design, textiles, and adornment exemplify representation, relationships, and resourcefulness. The intent of the symposium is to provide a platform to discuss theoretical and practical research, designs, and innovations in the widely varied topic of dress. All topics related to dress and adornment will be considered.

Rubrics and instructions for submitting proposals for each type of submission can be found in this call. While individuals are permitted to send multiple submissions in any or all categories, each first author will be allowed to present only two (2) accepted submissions to permit the greatest number of participants. If you are an award presenter or winner, this does not count toward your two-presentation limit. If you are listed as a secondary author on other accepted works, but not the first author, it will not count towards your two-presentation limit. The presentations will take place on an online platform, May 25-30, 2021.

Possible areas of investigation include, but are not limited to:

• Innovations in dress studies and fashion scholarship
• New exhibition practices in a post-COVID-19 world
• Theatrical costume research collaborations
• Cosplay and unconventional characters
• New research of indigenous dress and adornment
• Novel approaches to reenactment
• Digitizing collections
• Innovative designs highlighting marginalized cultures
• Continued conversations of decolonization
• Conservation collaborations with small collections
• Social justice through the lens of dress
• Innovations for utilizing historical records with dress collections

The call is international and is open to students, early and seasoned career professionals, scholars; educators; museum specialists; makers and marketers of dress, adornment, and/or wearable art; re-enactors; and other clothing enthusiasts are encouraged to submit proposals. Additionally, we invite scholars from alternative areas of research that may have a study pertaining to dress or adornment. Broad submissions of work are welcome from all areas of the field.

QUESTIONS?
Reach out to symposium@costumesocietyamerica.com for general questions. Abstracts administrators – Michaele Haynes (research presentations, in-progress research presentations, and panel/discussion sessions), Susan Yanofsky (design exhibition), and Lalon Alexander (PD workshops) – abstractscommittee@costumesocietyamerica.com

TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS
Research Presentations
In-Process Research Presentations
Panel or Discussion Sessions
Design Exhibition
Professional Development Workshops

Research Presentations: This is a traditional podium-presentation style for research. Choose the sub-category that your research best fits.
• Standard Research Presentation sub-category
  o Description: Includes qualitative and quantitative methods including historical research. This type of research is often designated as ‘formal style’ research.
• Design-Based Research Presentation sub-category
  o Description: Includes the work of designers and researchers who are considered to be moving their practice forward by presenting on a topic that other designers will learn from, such as presenting how to solve a problem based on one's approach to the problem, and the successful or unsuccessful outcome.
• Project-Based Research Presentation sub-category (previously called “Armchair Tour” or “Lightning Talk”)
o **Description:** Must be presented by creator(s) of the exhibition, project, or production. The idea behind these presentations is to give attendees a chance to virtually attend an exhibition, project, or production that has already taken place. Presenters at all levels of expertise are welcome to submit. Desired content includes museum exhibitions; digital projects; film and stage productions; collections, archive, and library management projects; re-enactor projects; and designed fashion collections.

- **Format:** Strictly limited to 20 minutes with visuals in PowerPoint or another appropriate delivery platform for all Research Presentations.
- **Submission:** Following the submission criteria outlined below, submit a 500-word (excluding endnotes/bibliography) abstract for all Research Presentations. Abstracts should clearly and concisely discuss contributions to the field, define the problem, purpose, thesis/argument, framework/methodology, and results/conclusions. Abstracts will be graded on originality, strength of research, methodology, clarity and organization, quality of conclusions, and quality of writing. The rubric for research presentations can be found [here](#). Up to four images are optional for research presentations.
- **Submission form for Research Presentations:**
  [https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumCFP_researchpresentation](https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumCFP_researchpresentation)

**All chosen research presentation abstracts submitted by members of CSA will be considered for the Betty Kirke Excellence in Research Award.**

**In-Process Research Presentations:** This is an opportunity to share works-in-progress. We seek submissions from emerging scholars as well as scholars with new ideas. Choose the sub-category that your presentation style best fits. Thesis and dissertation topics are also encouraged.

- **PechaKucha presentation sub-category**
  o **Description:** Offers scholars an opportunity to share works-in-progress through a short verbal and visual presentation style.
  o **Format:** Following the PechaKucha format, presentations will be six minutes and forty seconds, with twenty image-driven slides that automatically advance after twenty seconds. For more information on PechaKucha presentations, see [https://www.pechakucha.com/](https://www.pechakucha.com/).

- **Poster presentation sub-category**
  o **Description:** Offers scholars an opportunity to share work-in-process in poster format and talk one-on-one with symposium attendees about their research during a scheduled session.
  o **Format:** One poster, three feet tall by four feet wide. This is a static exhibit that will be on display at the symposium site, with scholars presenting their poster during the symposium during a designated time.

- **Submission:** Following the submission criteria outlined below, submit a 300-word abstract (excluding endnotes/bibliography) for all In-Process Research Presentations. Abstracts should discuss contributions to the field, thesis/argument, methodology, and current progress. Abstracts will be graded on originality, strength
of research, methodology, clarity and organization, and quality of writing. The rubric for research presentations can be found [here](#). Up to four images are optional for in-progress research presentations.

- **Submission form for In-Progress Research Presentations:**
  [https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_inprocessresearch](https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_inprocessresearch)

### Panel or Discussion Sessions

- **Description:** A panel or discussion session is the presentation of a group of papers centered on a common theme. It is proposed by a member of the panel, as opposed to being combined by the abstract committee into a concurrent session.

- **Format:** Strictly limited to a 90-minute session, including question time. It will consist of one moderator and no more than four presenters (which can include the moderator). Papers submitted for a panel presentation may not be submitted in any other category.

- **Submission:** The complete panel application should be submitted by the moderator following the submission criteria outlined below. Additionally, submit a 300-word abstract for the entire panel, as well as 300-word abstracts for each paper, the papers' titles, and the name and affiliation of each paper's presenter. Abstract word counts exclude the endnotes/bibliography. Abstracts should discuss contributions to the field, thesis/argument, methodology, and conclusions. Abstracts will be graded on originality, strength of research, methodology, clarity and organization, quality of conclusions, and quality of writing. The rubric for research presentations can be found [here](#). Up to four images are optional for panel or discussion sessions.

**Submission form for Panel or Discussion Sessions:**
[https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_paneldiscussion](https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_paneldiscussion)

### Design Exhibition

- **Description:** Submissions of creative work related to dress and fashion are welcomed from a full spectrum of the field, such as: costuming; cosplay; costume or fashion based on historical research; reproductions; reenactment garments; fashion design; fiber art and weaving intended for wearing; technology in design; textile and handcrafts; designs that utilize innovative techniques; and sustainable or unique materials. Career professionals and seasoned members, as well as young and emerging scholars are encouraged to submit proposals.

- **Format:** This is a static exhibit, installed with labels, and on display at the symposium site. Designers will present their design during the symposium during a designated time. Further details regarding the exhibition, delivery, and pick up of work will be provided to participants upon notification of acceptance. Designers are responsible for transporting the final design product to and from the symposium location.

- **Submission:** Submit 4-8 images with short captions (position on a 2-page PDF document to be uploaded) inclusive of the design process through finished piece. Images must include detailed internal and external documentation of design and process. *Images must not include any identifying information that would nullify the
blind juried process. Also include a 300-word written explanation (excluding endnotes/bibliography) of design inspiration, process, techniques/materials used, and explanation of how the design advances the field or design process. Abstracts will be graded on originality and design concept, research and concept development, quality and execution of the design, clarity of explanations, and quality of communication. The rubric for research presentations can be found here.

- **Submission form for Design Exhibition:**
  https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_designexhibition
- **All chosen design exhibition abstracts submitted by members of CSA will be considered for the Betty Kirke Excellence in Research Award.**

**Professional Development Workshops**

- **Description:** Professional Development Workshops introduce attendees to new topics and content which furthers growth in one’s field or enhances current knowledge. CSA seeks to provide sessions to symposium attendees that address one of the four CSA mission topic areas: education, preservation, research, and design.

- **Format:** Workshops may be formatted as how-to discussions delivered as a lecture demonstration, a hands-on session, or a roundtable discussion, and can either be 60 or 180 minutes long. Sessions may be composed of a single presenter or a group of presenters. Workshops may include a participant fee for supplies, if needed. Workshops can also be conducted off-site if needed.

- **Submission:** The complete workshop application should be submitted by the head facilitator or moderator following the submission criteria outlined below. Additionally, submit a 500-word abstract (excluding endnotes/bibliography) for the session. Abstracts should discuss inspiration and purpose of the workshop, a brief schedule of events/topics or plan of action, a budget, and any workshop needs for facilitation. Abstracts will be graded on originality, strength of explanatory logic, and quality of communication. The rubric for research presentations can be found here. Up to four images are optional for workshops.

**Submission form for Professional Development Workshops:**
https://csoa.memberclicks.net/2021symposiumcfp_workshop

**SUBMISSION CRITERIA**

Submitters can upload their information directly through the online form for your submission type identified above.

- Name*
- Title/Position
- Affiliation
- Email address
- Phone number
- Short biography (150 words max) – can be copy/pasted into a text box
- A headshot – JPG format, 25MB maximum

*Additional author and presenter information can be added after the first author.
The information above will be used for post-jury publication of accepted submissions and will not be tied to the abstracts during the blind-jury process.

- Submission title
- Submission sub-category (if needed for specific category)
- Abstract – see submission requirements pertaining to the specific format above
  Abstract formatting:
  - All uploaded files must be in a PDF format, no more than 25MB each.
  - Chicago style, double space text, single space endnotes/bibliography. 12-point font (Times New Roman, Arial, Myriad Pro, Calibri, or another easy-to-read font).
  - Abstracts should NOT include any identifying information that could nullify the blind juried process. Those that include this information will be disqualified.
  - Files should be named the abstract title, excluding subtitles (ex. “BeadsofNavahoTribe.pdf”). Do NOT include author names in file name; doing so will disqualify the entry.
  - For panels, combine all abstracts into one document, and save with the panel name.
- Four images* (optional for all submissions except design exhibition)
  - Images must be copyright cleared.
  - Save images into a one-page PDF document file, 25MB maximum size.
  - Image files should be named the abstract title, plus “images” (ex. BeadsofNavahoTribImages.pdf”). Again, including any author information in the file name will disqualify the entry.
- Design Exhibition Images - see submission requirements pertaining to the design exhibition above
  - 4-8 images with captions, saved as a 2-page PDF file, 25MB maximum size.
  - Image files should be named the abstract title, plus “images” (ex. BeadsofNavahoTribImages.pdf”). Again, including any author information in the file name will disqualify the entry.

Need help with PDFs? Do a search on the Internet for “free PDF converter”. Multiple options will come up for you to select. Choose the best one for you and look for online tutorials about that specific software.

CSA MEMBERSHIP AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
Submitters and presenters are not required to be members of CSA. Everyone presenting at the 2021 CSA annual meeting and symposium must pay the registration fee for and attend the symposium day on which they present. Conference registration information will be available sometime around March 2021. Discounted registration fees will be available for CSA members. For membership information, please visit: http://costumesocietyamerica.com/membership-information/

TIMELINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL, CONFIRMATION, AND PRESENTER REGISTRATION
Call for Submissions release date – July 1, 2020
Abstract Submission Deadline – November 4, 2020
Notification of Acceptance – December 20, 2020
Deadline for Presenters to Confirm Participation in Symposium – January 15, 2021
Deadline for Presenters to Register for Symposium – TBD (most likely in April, 2021)

NOTE TO STUDENTS
If your proposal is accepted, you will be eligible to apply for the Adele Filene Student Presenter Grant to assist you with your symposium registration cost.

PAPER AND PROJECT SELECTION
All abstracts will be double-blind and peer-reviewed by specialists in the area of submission, utilizing a standard rubric for each category. Accepted abstracts will be published in the symposium program and a brief biography of the presenter will appear on the Costume Society of America symposium website pages and/or the CSA 2021 app. Only copyright-cleared images will be accepted for publication. Costume Society of America does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, or ability.