**2020 NCPH**
**ATL 40 YEARS**

*"THE POWER AND PERSISTENCE OF STORIES"*
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY
2021 ANNUAL MEETING | SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH | MARCH 24-27
CALL FOR POSTERS

# The National Council on Public History invites poster submissions for the poster session at our 2021 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Deadline:** Thursday, October 15, 2020
**Submit a proposal** at http://bit.ly/NCPH2021Posters
**Questions?** Email Program Manager Meghan Hillman (meghillm@iupui.edu)

## What is the NCPH poster session?

The NCPH poster session is a two-hour block of time at the annual meeting where presenters can share their projects with attendees in the form of a poster. It offers an alternative for presenters eager to share their work through one-on-one discussion, can be especially useful for works-in-progress, and may be a particularly appropriate format for presentations where visual or material evidence represents a central component of the project.

## When is the poster session?

The poster session will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center. Set-up will start an hour before the poster session begins.

## How to submit a proposal

Please fill out the online form at http://bit.ly/NCPH2021Posters. Along with contact information and a brief (~300 word) explanation of your poster, we ask that you provide a one-page C/V for each presenter and a simple visual mock-up of your poster (saved and uploaded as a PDF).

## How will my proposal be judged?

The Program Committee will consider the persuasiveness of your abstract, the quality of your proposed visual presentation, and your project's relation to major issues and questions in public history. Adherence to this year's conference theme, "The Presence and Persistence of Stories," is not required, but reading over this year's Call for Proposals may give you some helpful tips for your poster proposal.

## When is my proposal due?

**Poster proposals are due THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020.** You will hear back about the status of your proposal in early November 2020. If accepted to the poster session, graduate students who are members of NCPH are eligible to apply for a Graduate Student Travel Award by December 1. Accepted poster presenters must register and pay for the conference within six weeks of acceptance onto the program.

## What if I'm not certain I will be able to travel next March due to COVID-19? Should I still submit a poster for consideration?

There's a lot of uncertainty around travel and in-person gatherings like conferences at the moment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we're hopeful that a lot of progress will be made on that front by next March, and we are actively working with our conference hotel to meet social distancing and health and safety requirements, we know you may not feel confident in your March plans when posters are due in October. We urge you to submit your poster for consideration anyway! Upon the cancellation of our 2020 in-person meeting we successfully transitioned our poster session to our Instagram, @publichistorians, which preserved the visual nature of the posters and allowed poster presenters to interact with our two thousand followers on the platform. We are likely to make this option available again to supplement the in-person poster session in 2021.

## Guidelines for Posters

The following guidelines are an attempt to standardize the posters, leveling the playing field for all presenters and hopefully reducing the cost of participation (especially the cost of shipping). We are keenly aware of the need for creative license in creating the posters and do not want to squash anyone's creativity; however, we ask that presenters stick to the size and material guidelines for the poster. Upon request in your proposal, one-half of a six-foot table will be provided where groups can display websites, video, audio, objects, or other supporting materials.

*Please note that basic wireless internet access will be available for the poster session. However, should service be interrupted for any reason, you may wish to save any websites or videos to your hard drive so that you are able to navigate the site without internet access.*

## What are the dimensions of a poster?

No larger than 36" x 48". Please note that the cardboard provided to attach your poster to will be this size, so posters smaller than these dimensions may look untidy.

## What materials should I use?

Use laminated paper or poster paper. If you will need space to hang a poster, please be sure to request an easel in your proposal. 36" x 48" cardboard will be provided to those who request an easel, as will binder clips to attach your poster to the cardboard.

## Formatting and content advice:

- A good poster should introduce your topic, research questions or goals; describe methodology and/or best practices; and give outcomes (what was accomplished/what you learned)
- Give the poster a title.
- Use images to illustrate your points.
- Caption the photos with a title, photographer, and date.
- Keep text brief. Edit carefully. The test of a good poster is if someone can read it in two minutes and understand your main points.
- Use backgrounds and graphics to enliven the look of the poster. Visual appeal is not a secondary consideration but a fundamental part of your poster's effectiveness.
- Print out all text. Do not hand letter.

- Consider making copies of your poster as handouts. This will mean shrinking the poster to legal-sized copies. Observers often want something to take away. Provide your contact information so folks can reach you later with additional questions, resources, and/or suggestions.

## Printing and Shipping

You have a few options for printing and shipping. If you are staying in Salt Lake City, you may print the poster at home, roll it in a poster tube, and ship it to your hotel. (More details will be provided closer to the annual meeting.)  You may also print your poster at home and carry it on the plane. If you do not wish to ship or transport the poster, you may email your poster file to a print shop in Salt Lake City and pick it up there.

## Resources to Consult

If you've never designed or presented a poster before, here are some collected tips and tricks!

- 2014 NCPH attendee Stephanie Krom wrote a blog post about the NCPH poster session that includes great tips for poster presenters.
- Digital Humanities at Berkley has a guide to creating and printing digital humanities posters.
- The University of North Carolina Grad School has general tips and resources for poster presentations.
- Tullio Rossi offers excellent advice for poster concept, design, and logistics at the blog for the London School of Economics. While written with scientific posters in mind, most of this advice is great for humanities posters as well!
- The American Historical Association has assembled a page on effective poster presentations.
- The American Public Health Association has some guidelines for putting together an accessible poster presentation.
- The Association of University Centers on Disabilities also has guidelines for designing accessible printed posters.