Call for Posters
2016 NCPH/SHFG ANNUAL MEETING
Challenging the Exclusive Past
March 16-19
Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel – Baltimore, Maryland

What is the Poster Session?
The Poster Session is a format for public history presentations about projects that use visual evidence. 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 17, 2016 from 5:00-7:00pm at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland. Set-up will start an hour before the Poster Session begins.

How to Submit a Proposal
Proposals must be submitted electronically (in ONE PDF document) and include:
1. Contact information, including participant(s') name(s), address(es), email(s), phone number(s), and affiliation(s), and a brief explanation of needs. (You may request ½ of a 6' table, access to one electrical outlet, and/or an easel and cardboard on which to display your poster.) Wireless internet access will be available. *Participants must provide own computer if one will be used in the presentation. Due to limited space, projectors may not be used during the poster presentation.*
2. An abstract of no more than 300 words (including title) that explains and promotes the project. Be persuasive! Imagine that the audience for the proposal abstract is a museum visitor, potential funding agency, recalcitrant policy board or client, or fractious community group.
3. A one-page c.v. or resume for each participant.
4. Include a simple one- or two-page visual mock-up of the display (e.g., created in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Photoshop, or Publisher, etc. and saved as a PDF).

How Will Your Proposal Be Judged?
The review committee will consider the persuasiveness of your abstract, the persuasiveness/quality of your visual presentation, and your project's relation to major issues and questions in public history.

***Deadline:* OCTOBER 1, 2015.** Email your proposal to ncph@iupui.edu with the subject line "2016 Poster." *You will receive a confirmation email within three business days. If you do not receive a confirmation email, contact the NCPH Executive Office because your proposal may not have been received.* You will receive notification of whether or not your poster has been accepted by November 2015. If accepted, graduate students who are members of NCPH are eligible to apply for a Graduate Student Travel Award.

Why is the Poster Session important?
Posters are an interactive and collegial format for displaying and discussing project-based work and for showing off visual and material approaches. In the sciences, posters are often a way to present preliminary data on a research topic and gather advice. We understand that most posters for this conference will represent work that is complete, but we encourage students and advisors to present work as part of multi-year or ongoing projects so they can solicit advice and resources at the conference.

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 quash 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, baked goods, and other supporting materials. *Please note that 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".

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 cardboard and an easel in your proposal.

Formatting and Content Advice
A good poster should introduce your topic, research questions or goals, methods, and/or best practices, and what was accomplished and what you learned. Be sure to include the following:
- 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 wallpaper and graphics to enliven the look of the poster.
- 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 Advice
You have a few options for printing and shipping. If you are staying in Baltimore, 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 Baltimore and pick it up there.

Presentation Advice
Students should be prepared to give a brief oral introduction to the project and answer questions.

Resources

2014 Poster presenter Stephanie Krom wrote up some poster tips. http://aphdigital.org/2014/05/13/poster-tips-for-humanities-conference-posters/

The Society for Conservation Biology has some very useful advice and suggestions for creating effective posters. http://www.conbio.org/professional-development/advice-for-students/help-designing-posters