Preview of 2015 NAASA Conference
Santa Fe, New Mexico, September 30-October 3

The 2015 Native American Art Studies conference will be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, September 30-October 3, at the Hilton Buffalo Thunder Resort. A Board-sponsored reception opens the program on Wednesday evening, followed by conference sessions Thursday, Friday and Saturday. On Thursday and Friday evenings museums in Santa Fe will host receptions and the program will conclude with a Saturday evening banquet. The local host committee, led by the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum and Research Center and the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, consists of over 18 organizations working to make our return to Santa Fe a memorable one!

Conference registration will open with the next newsletter, early next spring. Information about travel and lodging will also be provided in that issue.

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- Call for Sessions
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- 2014 President’s Report
- Call for Board Nominees
- Tours Preview
President’s Report

The planning meeting for the 2015 Conference in Santa Fe took place June 6-7, 2014 at the Hilton Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino. The board was welcomed by Pojoaque Pueblo Governor George Rivera with a special breakfast before a tour of the extensive conference facilities. The local organizing committee, comprised of over 18 organizations from Santa Fe and Albuquerque, was represented at our meeting by Carolyn Kastner (Georgia O'Keeffe Museum) and Ryan Rice (Museum of Contemporary Native Arts). At a reception that evening at the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts and a dinner at the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum Research Center, we were able to visit with several other local committee members and are very impressed with the enthusiasm and ideas building for our conference. The following are some highlights from our meeting:

Financials/Accounting/Bylaws
Our financial status is in good standing and we were glad to affirm that we were solidly in the black after our last conference in Denver. This was largely due to the generosity of the Denver Art Museum in covering more expenses and providing discounts on services. We can’t thank them enough! It is always our goal to have our conferences pay for themselves through registration, membership, and local support. Every conference we are in the black helps us build our bank account to cover those years when we have an unexpected shortfall.

Secretary and Membership Reports
Over the past two years, the number of members registering above basic level has greatly increased. We discussed making registration and other fees non-refundable after a pre-determined date; a glut of last-minute cancellations was very disruptive to planning, budget and the program at the 2013 conference. It was decided that the 2015 Registration form will clearly state our refund policy and there will be a date after which no refunds will be issued. This is also an important consideration in Tour planning since those expenses (e.g. bus or coach rental) are determined by the number of registered participants.

Travel and Honor Awards
For our 2013 conference we distributed 9 awards; our highest number yet. Despite this success, application for awards continues to be a challenge. After much thoughtful discussion, the Board voted unanimously to increase the amount of the travel awards to $750 though the number of awards might be reduced. Travel awards will still include waived conference registration.

In past practice, the Honor Award has rotated between favoring an artist and a scholar. Accordingly, 2015 will privilege outstanding service by a scholar in the field.

The Board was thrilled by our reception in Santa Fe and there is palpable excitement about the return of the NAASA conference after our last appearance there in 1993. It will be interesting to reflect on how the organization and the field has changed in this active and culturally rich environment over 20 years later. Details about the conference will be fleshed out considerably in the Spring newsletter. We are very honored to be holding our conference within Pojoaque Pueblo land.

Kathleen Ash-Milby, President
Call for Session Proposals

The NAASA Program Committee (Kate Morris, chair; Henrietta Lidchi, Sherry Farrell Racette and Heather Igloliorte) invites formal proposals for organized sessions at the 2015 conference. The call for individual papers will appear in the March 2015 newsletter.

Proposed sessions may focus on a particular body of material and present perspectives for further understanding of a topic. We are open to receiving proposals in the fields of contemporary and traditional art, or interdisciplinary panels that encourage dialogue among artists, anthropologists, collectors, museum professionals and art historians. Standard-format sessions will be composed of four presentations, each of no more than twenty minutes in length. We will also entertain proposals for alternative-format sessions, such as roundtable discussions, workshops, interviews, film screenings, etc.

Session Organizers should send abstracts that do not exceed 200 words in length. Abstracts must clearly define the central issue and intellectual focus of the session (theoretical, descriptive, historical, etc.), and indicate its organization (papers only, papers with discussant, roundtable, workshop, etc.). Session Organizers are responsible for soliciting a core group of speakers for their sessions but must be open to considering additional papers from an open call. Session Organizers should provide, or arrange for, opening remarks to the session. Although it is not necessary to have presenters confirmed at this time, please send the names of potential speakers under consideration and their topics. We assume that speakers will be using presentation software such as Powerpoint unless special equipment is requested in advance.

Session proposal abstracts must be received by January 15, 2015. Direct proposals by email to: klmorris@scu.edu. Accepted session proposals will be announced in the March newsletter along with a call for individual papers for these and for open sessions. The Program Committee will organize individually volunteered papers into sessions related by topic, region, or methodology.

Additional Session Proposal Opportunity

In addition to the standard-format and alternative-format session proposals solicited above, the Program Committee is seeking moderators for a special series of roundtable discussions that will be slotted into the conference program. We propose to devote a full time block in the program (roughly 90 minutes) to 5 or more break-out discussions on separate topics that are of wide interest to our membership. Topics might include discussion of a specific text or theoretical framework, “Blogging as Publishing,” “Fellowships and Funded Research,” “Tribal Museums,” “Working with Docents,” etc. Moderators are asked to propose a topic (or select one of these), identify 3-4 speakers to present short five-minute introductory remarks, prepare a list of questions for discussion, and then moderate a sustained discussion with all members of the panel and audience over the 90-minute period. Moderators, topics and speakers will be listed in the conference program; however, participation in this capacity will not preclude an individual from giving a paper or chairing a paper elsewhere in the program. Please note that this is an exception to the rule by which individuals are generally limited to participating in only one session per NAASA conference.

As with proposals for standard-format sessions listed above, proposals for these alternative-format sessions should not exceed 200 words in length, should clearly identify a topic and list possible speakers, and must be received by January 15, 2015. Please clearly state that the proposal is for a board-organized break-out session. Direct proposals by email to: klmorris@scu.edu.

Jason Garcia, “Tewa Tales of Suspense #4 Behold...Po’pay,” serigraph, Courtesy Buffalo Thunder art collection.
Lifetime Achievement Honor Award 2015: Call for Nominations

At each conference NAASA honors an outstanding individual who has made a longstanding and dedicated contribution to the creation, study or promotion of Native American art. The Lifetime Achievement Honor Award is bestowed on a living individual. Previous Honor Award holders are: Bill Holm (1991); Gloria Cranmer-Webster (1993); Bud Whiteford (1995); Pablita Velarde and J.J. Brody (1997); Arthur Amiotte (1999); Mary Hamilton (2001); Barbara Hail (2003); Jaune Quick-to-see Smith (2005); Naomi Pascal (2007); Benjamin Harjo, Jr. (2009); Robin Wright (2011); and DY Begay (2013).

The NAASA Board invites you to forward your nominations for the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Honor Award. This should include a statement explaining why this person should be honoured which should include biographical details of the nominee (up to four pages). Nominations from the membership are brought together for consideration by the Board and determined by a majority vote of Board members. Please e-mail your nominations and explanatory statement to Henrietta Lidchi, chair, Honor Award Committee at: h.lidchi@nms.ac.uk (entitled NAASA Honor Nomination). Nominations must be received by 1 March, 2015.

NAASA Board Elections 2015 Call for Nominees

The membership-at-large elects new officers and new board members during our business meeting at each conference. Our by-laws specify an executive board of ten members. In 2015, there are five Board positions expiring: three Board-level positions that serve four-year terms, and two officer positions of Vice-President and President that serve two-year terms.

To qualify for consideration, nominees must be members of NAASA, have attended at least one prior NAASA conference, and be present at the conference business meeting in which the election is held. Nominees for President and Vice-President must have current or previous Board experience.

The Nominations Committee (Emil Her Many Horses, chair; Deana Dartt and Alex Marr) is currently seeking suggestions for those positions. We invite NAASA members to submit names of potential candidates for the board by emailing Nominations Committee Chair, Emil Her Many Horses at hermanyhorses@si.edu

When proposing a nomination, please send a short biographical sketch of the nominee (75-100 words). Include nominee’s full name, address, phone and email if possible, along with a brief statement about why you believe the individual would be a good candidate for the NAASA Board.

For more information, please visit our web site: http://nativearts.org/about-naasa/nominations/
Pre-Conference Tour Preview
Wednesday, September 30, 2015
Albuquerque Native Arts: From Ancient to Contemporary

The tour will begin at the Tamarind Institute, Lithography Studio and Workshop, with a special exhibition by Indigenous artists who have created work at the press. The tour will continue by bus to the University of New Mexico campus with a visit to the Art Museum and the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology. Lunch will be at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) at their Pueblo Harvest Café, followed by a tour of the museum. Raven Chacon and Kade Twist of the contemporary collective Postcommodity will meet participants at IPCC to show their recent work in film and discuss their ideas and process with guests. A bus will depart from Albuquerque at 4pm to deliver guests to Buffalo Thunder by 5:30pm.

Post-Conference Tours
Sunday, October 3, 2015
Santa Fe Museums and a walk in an Ancient Site

Two post-conference tours offer a leisurely day in Santa Fe or a hike through an ancient landscape followed by lunch at a Pueblo. In Santa Fe conference participants can enjoy a self-guided experience in the city’s museums; free admission with a conference badge will be offered by the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, and New Mexico Museum of Art.

For those looking for adventure we offer an all-day bus excursion to ancient sites, lunch at a pueblo, and a chance to try your hand at pottery making. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a short bus ride to Tsankawi, an ancestral village of San Ildefonso, for a two-hour easy hike with an Indigenous guide. Participants will see rock art, structures, potsherds, and the Tewa landscape, interpreted by archaeology, ethnology, and history. Lunch will be served by local hosts at either the Santa Clara or San Ildefonso Pueblo. After lunch participants will be offered a two-hour class in pottery at Poeh Cultural Center, where 1200 artists have trained since it opened 25 years ago. The bus will return to Buffalo Thunder by 5pm.
MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in Native North American art (north of the Rio Grande and including the First Nations of Canada) is invited to become a member of the Native American Art Studies Association (NAASA). The Association distributes a periodic newsletter, hosts national conferences, and serves as a clearinghouse for information relating to Native American art studies through our ListServ.

Name:

Date: Affiliation:

Street Address:

City: State:

Zip/Postal Code Country:

Email: Phone:

Membership-choose your level

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If you are at Patron level, may we acknowledge you by name? Yes / No

Would you like to donate to the Travel Award fund? $ 

Total to be paid in U.S. dollars: $ 

To pay by credit card:

1) Download form at www.nativearts.org
2) Email form to naasamail@gmail.com
3) You will receive invoice.
4) Follow instructions to pay with a credit card via PayPal.

Invoice payable upon receipt. Membership is NOT complete until paid in full.

To pay by check or money order (US Funds only): Payable to “NAASA”

Mail with completed form to:
NAASA c/o Kathleen Ash-Milby
NMAI - George Gustav Heye Center
One Bowling Green
New York, NY 10004