NAASA 2021 Conference Update

We have a few updates to share about the upcoming conference. It is all good news and we are getting excited about the conference plans coming together. We hope you are too!

The NAASA Board Programs Committee has processed the session proposals and you will see the complete listings in this newsletter.

We are now placing a call for individual papers – these will be due April 30, 2021. Information about how to submit your paper is provided.

The Lifetime Achievement Award Committee is seeking nominations to consider. And, Board Nominations are now being invited for the election to take place during the conference business meeting. More information on how to submit nominations for each of these is included below.

As we start moving towards the conference, we are starting to look at our plans and membership needs. We are being brave but also responsible with every decision. We believe we are making small changes that will sustain NAASA for years to come. More details are provided in the Message from the President.

If you haven’t recently, please check out the NAASA website: https://nativearts.org. Chelsea Herr, NAASA Secretary, has been wielding her magic to give the organization’s website a whole new look! I’ll expound more on this in my comments. So, keep reading to see what’s coming…

In this newsletter:
- 2021 Conference Sessions
- Call for Papers
- Call for Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations
- Call for Board Nominations
- Message from President
Message from the President
by heather ahtone

This year is already full. Full of hope and ambition. Full of exhausting details. Full of big things happening that we can all celebrate, like the opening of Qaumajuq in Winnipeg! Congratulations to all the excellent scholars and visionaries that worked on it, including Heather Igloliorte (NAASA Board Member). Heather, you give me hope for what I have on my horizon.

As we have hit the anniversary of all the changes that came from the pandemic, it is amazing to me to look at what has been achieved by our membership despite the numerous challenges working against our successes. For the board, the very flexible response to commit to a virtual conference has seemingly been a godsend for our little organization. Once we knew we were going to have to make the turn to virtual, the Directors started creating both a plan and identifying tasks that would need to be addressed.

One of the immediately identified targets was to make our website more user-friendly (something many in the membership have been calling for) because it will have to become a way to manage the membership digitally. Thanks to Chelsea Herr for reorganizing the website and giving it a much needed facelift, preparing for the website to become our data central center for all things membership.

We are making some changes that you can’t see yet so that each NAASA member will have a uniquely identified membership number created through the website that will serve as your key to unlocking the conference site. More to come on this as we are still making the shift over to the website’s management. The excellent outcome of this for the long-term is that the website will become the distribution point for newsletters and members will be able to post up on a Members Only page all the announcements and notifications that currently have to go through the NAASA gmail account. Also, very shortly, you will be able to pay your membership fee directly to the website via multiple payment options – we should have that ready to go by early May. More on that coming soon.

There are some other changes that you will all see coming in the next few months. We are working with Lucy Lydon, Luce Productions, to work through the details for the virtual conference. We are confirming how to conduct our election as a conference session, including the floor nominations and voting! We are working through how to manage the organization’s finances to sustain the positive changes that we’ve made to carry past the conference. All of this will be discussed as we move forward. Be confident that the Board is thinking about this growth with every consideration for sustainability and transparency. We will have a great deal to share as we move toward the conference.

Wherever you are, while the days are full, I hope that you are able to find some joy and light to lift yourself. And, please get your covid vaccine so we can plan to meet in person in 2023!
Lifetime Achievement Honor Award 2021
Call for Nominations
Nominations Deadline: May 21, 2019

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 awardees are: Bill Holm (1991); Gloria Crammer-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); DY Begay (2013); Anne Fienup Riordan (2015); Kay WalkingStick (2017); and Truman Lowe (2019). For more information about the award recipients, please visit the website: https://nativearts.org/about-naasa/awards/award/.

The NAASA Board invites you to forward your nominations for the 2021 Lifetime Achievement Honor Award. This should include a statement explaining why this person should be honored which should include professional and 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 email your nominations and explanatory statement to Amy Lonetree, chair, Honor Award Committee at lonetree@ucsc.edu. Nominations must be received by May 21, 2021.

Board Elections in 2021
Call for Nominations
Nominations Deadline: May 21, 2019

The membership-at-large elects new officers and several new board members during our business meeting at each conference. Our by-laws specify an executive board of ten members. In 2021, there are two open Board positions, current Directors up for re-election, plus an election for the 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 (Kate Morris, chair) is currently seeking nominations for the open Board positions. We invite NAASA members to submit suggestions for potential candidates for the board by emailing Nominations Committee Chair Kate Morris at klmorris@scu.edu.

When making a nomination, please send the nominees full name, address, phone, and email, with a short biographical sketch of the nominee (75-100 words) and a brief statement about why you believe the individual would make a good candidate for the NAASA Board. The deadline for nominations is May 21, 2021. For more information, please visit our website: https://nativearts.org/about-naasa/nominations/.
Call for Papers Submission Deadline April 30, 2020

The NAASA Program Committee (Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie, chair; Christina Burke, John Lukavic, Yatika Fields, Miranda Belarde-Lewis and Alexandra Nahgeahbow) invites submissions of papers for the sessions listed below, as well as for Open Sessions to be organized for the 2021 conference. Please note that if a proposed session fails to fill, or we do not receive the required information from the session organizer in time to include it in the conference schedule, we reserve the right to merge proposed papers with another session or consider them for inclusion in an Open Session. To submit paper abstracts, please comply with the following instructions:

To submit paper abstracts, please comply with the following instructions:

- All abstracts must be received by April 30, 2020, whether they are sent to a session organizer (papers to be considered for that session) or to the Program Committee (papers to be considered for Open Sessions).
- An abstract may be no more than 100 words long. It must clearly define your subject, explain your purpose and describe your methodology.
- To submit a paper for a session described below, send your abstract directly to the session organizer/chair. The organizer(s) or each session will notify both the session participants and the Program Committee of the papers accepted for that session. Any paper not accepted for an organized session will be forwarded to the Program Committee for consideration in an Open Session.
- The Program Committee welcomes submission of papers covering topics not included in the proposed sessions (see following pages).

To submit a paper for an Open Session, send your abstract directly to Hulleah Tsinhnahjinnie at tsinhnahjinnie@ucdavis.edu with Subject: NAASA Open Sessions 2021

Open Sessions Seeking Paper Submissions

These sessions have been accepted for the conference and are seeking additional paper submissions. Please send your submissions directly to the Session Chair identified.

Claiming Craft
Chair  Dr. Emily Moore, Colorado State University

"Craft" is a contentious word for many makers and scholars of Indigenous objects. Imposing Western distinctions of the utilitarian versus the supposedly cerebral category of "fine art," craft has also been weaponized as a racist and sexist term to deny Indigenous creation the status historically accorded to objects made by White men. Yet a radical reevaluation of craft has taken place in contemporary art and criticism in recent years, one that honors the labor and wisdom of material-based practices, respects the communal and intergenerational passage of knowledge, and celebrates the conceptually-rich possibilities of the "head" and the "hand" working together. Given this wider recalibration of craft, is it time to reconsider the use of this Western term in Indigenous contexts as well? Could a new discourse of craft help translate the values of many Indigenous makers, or does the term have too much baggage to be useful? This roundtable welcomes makers and scholars to contribute short reflections on the term "craft" and to discuss its impact on Indigenous creation, past, present, and future.

This is a standard format session. We welcome 20-minute paper proposals. Submit 100-word abstract for this session by March 22, 2019, to Dr. Emily Moore, E.L.Moore@colostate.edu
Chair: Cassandra Smith, Pueblo of Isleta Department of Cultural and Historic Preservation and Yonan An Cultural Center

Focusing upon creative, and often hands-on, knowledge-sharing approaches, this panel provides an opportunity for panelists to discuss a range of community-based programs and practices that they have helped to facilitate in order to develop collaborative, reciprocal—and, most importantly—living archival projects. Relationship to land, intergenerational cultural transmission, understanding and application of appropriate cultural protocols, tribal law, and collaborative digital and multi-media technologies will all figure as prominent themes in our discussion. The format for this panel will comprise an initial section featuring presenter/discussants’ five-minute “flash” presentations on community-based archival projects with which they have been involved, followed by a moderated roundtable discussion, with plenty of time for Q & A with audience members.

Individuals interested in participating in this panel should submit a CV and bio, along with a brief written description of one of more such tribal archival projects they’d like to discuss to cassandra.smith@isletapueblo.com. Additional documentation (e.g., video, photo, etc.) is welcome.

Closed Sessions
In addition to the sessions that are accepting individual paper submissions, the following sessions are closed to additional submissions because individual papers have already been identified.

Creating and Engaging Virtually: A Conversation with Alaska Native Artists and Alaskan Museum Anthropologists
Chair: Dawn Biddison, Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center

nandokawechige: Building The Morrisseau Project: 1955-1985
Co-Convenors: Dr. Carmen Robertson, Carleton University and Dr. Ruth Phillips, Carleton University

Native American Art in German Ethnographic Museums
Chair Andrea Ferber, Independent Academic

Photography as Reclamation
Session Co-Chairs Amy Lonetree (Ho-Chunk), University of California, Santa Cruz and Sascha Scott, Syracuse University

Material Expressions of Indigenous-Caribou Relationalities
Chair Christina Williamson, Carleton University

Land Acknowledgments: The pros, cons, and NAGPRA
Gracie Horne, Artist/Independent Scholar

Chair Jami C. Powell, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth

Layering Renewal: (En)Gendered Contexts of Place in Native Arts of Turtle Island
Michelle Lanteri, University of Oklahoma

Action/Abstraction Redefined: Artists Remember Early Years of IAIA
Co-chairs: Manuela Well-Off-Man, IAIA Museum of Contemporary Native Arts; Hannah Klemm, Saint Louis Art Museum; and Alex Brier Marr, Saint Louis Art Museum