Frequently Asked Questions

For general guidelines, please consult: https://dancestudiesassociation.org/submission-guidelines.

Q: Do I need to be a member of DSA to present at the Conference?
A: Although you may submit a proposal as a non-member, you must be a member of DSA and register for the conference in order to appear on the program. Once your proposal is accepted, you will be prompted to join DSA and register for the conference, and if you have not done so by May 31, 2019, your proposal will be dropped from the program. DSA is a non-profit organization under US law and does not receive subsidy from the government or the academy. Hence we rely on membership and registration fees to cover the cost of hosting conferences, publishing Dance Research Journal and Studies in Dance History, and advocating for the field. We understand that scholarly conferences outside the US deploy different models; hence we are providing this explanation for the necessity to join DSA and register for the conference.

Q: How is my proposal considered? Can I receive feedback?
A: The abstract submission process is blind review by the Program Committee, and each submission is scored by two reviewers. The Program Committee is unable to provide written feedback on submissions.

Q: How many conference sessions may I present in?
A: - You may submit only one proposal to the Program Committee, and your name may appear on the conference program only once as a presenter (this includes individual papers, pre-formed panels, and roundtable sessions). However, you may also serve as a moderator, although not for your own panel, and if invited, you may speak on a panel honoring another scholar.

Q: What do we mean by keywords for a proposal?
A: The keywords denote the main topic or topics with which your presentation aligns or how you would like your research to be categorized. We will use the keywords to 1) match abstracts to Program Committee evaluators based on research expertise and 2) to group presentations within the conference schedule. Examples: tango, identity, kathakali.

Q: How should I list presenters to a roundtable?
A: Click “Roundtable” in the first row of radio buttons. Enter the name of the roundtable and keywords for the roundtable in the “General Information” section. Under the Presenters section, put the abstract for the roundtable under “Author 1” (this will be the contact for the roundtable). Add additional authors for everyone on the roundtable. In Authors 2 and onward, indicate “participant on this roundtable” in the abstract section since you only need to submit one abstract for the roundtable. However, if your individual panelists need or want to include their own presentation titles or abstracts, they can do so, but should make it clear that is what is happening.
Q: Does the conference offer remote participation for presenters?
A: In the spirit of building an intellectual and moving community of dance researchers, Dance Studies Association requires conference participants to deliver their presentations in person. If you live in a region or are in a circumstance that inhibits your travel, we will consider remote requests on a case-by-case basis. Please submit a proposal through the current online form, and under the technical requirements section, explain your situation and need to present remotely.

Q: Is there mentoring provided for Graduate students or emerging scholars?
A: DSA will be sponsoring its first pre-conference seminar for graduate students and emerging scholars. Information and applications for the 2019 DSA/Mellon Preconference for Emergent Scholars will be available September 15, 2019. Click the link for more information https://dancestudiesassociation.org/conferences. Please check the DSA website under conferences for details.

Q: Does DSA provide travel stipends or graduate student prizes?
A: Yes, DSA provides conference travel grants, and the Selma Jeanne Cohen Award for best graduate student essay. For links regarding the Selma Jeanne Cohen Award and Travel Grants, see the CFP or https://dancestudiesassociation.org/awards.