Preview of 2017 NAASA Conference
Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 25-29

The 2017 Native American Art Studies Association conference will be held from October 25-29, at the Hyatt Regency Tulsa. A Board-sponsored reception opens the program on Wednesday evening, followed by conference sessions Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Evening events will include receptions at the Gilcrease Museum and the Philbrook Downtown, and will also feature events on the amazing Guthrie Green (music, film screenings and food trucks!), pictured above. The conference will close with a Saturday evening banquet at the PostOak Lodge. If your travel plans allow, take advantage of pre- and post-conference tours to the Osage and Cherokee Nations. Details follow in this newsletter.

Conference registration will open with the next newsletter, early in spring 2017. Information about travel and lodging will also be provided in that issue.
The NAASA Board convened in Tulsa this past June to begin planning the 2017 conference. We were hosted by an enthusiastic and gracious Tulsa Convention and Visitors Bureau, and by a dedicated Local Organizing Committee headed by Christina Burke, Curator of Native American and Non-Western Art at the Philbrook Museum. Members of the Board toured the two Philbrook campuses – Main Campus and Downtown – with Christina, and the Gilcrease Museum with Gilcrease Director James Pepper Henry. It was such a pleasure to get a behind-the-scenes look at these important collections of historic and contemporary Native American art, and we look forward to being able to share that experience with the full NAASA membership next year.

Together we discussed a broad range of initiatives taking place locally and how we might partner with Tulsa’s indigenous arts institutions and surrounding Native communities. The Board emerged from our meetings deeply impressed with the wealth of opportunities that Tulsa presents for our biennial conference. Let us assure you that the vibrant indigenous arts scene and general cultural renaissance taking place in Tulsa are simply not to be missed.

Kate Morris, President  
Henrietta Lidchi, Vice-President
Board Report Continued

Financials/Accounting/Bylaws

Our financial status is excellent, and we are happy to affirm that we were solidly in the black after our last conference in Santa Fe. It is always our goal to have our conferences pay for themselves through registration, membership, and local support. Due to Kathleen Ash-Milby’s impressive leadership and the generosity and hard work of the Santa Fe Local Organizing Committee we are in a better position to cover those years when we have an unexpected shortfall. We can’t thank them enough!

In other financial news: the transfer of the NAASA bank accounts and financial records from the past President to the current President has been completed, and with it our biennial review of the books. We are also pleased to announce that we have appointed Maggie Wander as the new NAASA Treasurer through 2017. Maggie is a graduate student in the History of Art and Visual Culture doctoral program at UC Santa Cruz. Her research focuses on the material cultures of Indigenous communities in Oceania and North America, examining the potential for those materials to intervene in discourses about ecological issues today. Thank you to Board Member Amy Lonetree for introducing Maggie to us.

Secretary & Membership Reports

In an ongoing effort to support our host communities and to encourage local participation in the biennial conference, we will continue with the precedent set in Santa Fe in 2015 that allows local students and members of the community to attend the first morning of the conference without charge. This includes the Keynote Address and Plenary sessions.

Travel Awards

In Santa Fe we distributed six awards of $750 each, including the Allan Houser and Richard Conn Awards. Following the close of the conference, we were pleased to announce the creation of the new Kate C. Duncan Travel Award (see NAASA Newsletter Vol. 21 no. 1). In June the Board decided to increase all 2017 Travel Awards to $1000. Travel Awards will no longer include comped membership (the student membership rate is $35), but certain other costs will be waived, such as conference registration and banquet tickets. Thank you again to the generous supporters of the NAASA Travel Awards.
Call for Session Proposals

The NAASA Program Committee (Henrietta Lidchi, chair; Heather Igloliorte, Amy Lonetree and Deana Dartt) invites formal proposals for organized sessions at the 2017 conference. The call for individual papers will appear in the March 2017 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 (90 minutes) should allow a maximum of four presentations, each no more than fifteen to twenty minutes in length. We welcome proposals for alternative-format sessions, such as roundtable discussions, workshops, interviews, film screenings, etc.

Session Organizers should send session abstracts of up to 200 words in length. Session abstracts must define the central issue clearly and identify 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. It is not necessary to have all presenters confirmed at this time, however please note the names of potential speakers under consideration and their topics. In principle Session Organizers should allow additional papers to be included in response to the Open Call published in March 2017. Please bear in mind individual speakers can participate in one session only (though they may Chair one session and speak in another).

The standard presentation software provided will be Powerpoint, all other requirements should be indicated in advance so this can be organized. Session Organizers should provide, or arrange for, opening remarks to the session and are expected to run their sessions to the time available.

Session proposal abstracts must be received by January 17, 2017. Direct proposals by email to: h.lidchi@nms.ac.uk. 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.

Board organized break-out sessions

In addition to the standard-format and alternative-format session proposals solicited above, the Program Committee is seeking proposals for a series of roundtable discussions or other looser formats that will be slotted into the conference program.

We propose to devote a full time block in the program (roughly 90 minutes) to up to five break-out discussions on topics of interest to our membership. Moderators are asked to propose a topic, 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. Participation in this capacity will not preclude an individual from giving a paper or chairing a session 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 17, 2017. Please clearly state that the proposal is for a board-organized break-out session.
Lifetime Achievement Honor Award 2017
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); DY Begay (2013); and Ann Fienup-Riordan (2015).

The NAASA Board invites you to forward your nominations for the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Honor Award. This should include a statement explaining why this person should be honored 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 Sherry Farrell Racette, chair, Honor Award Committee: s.farrellracette@gmail.com (entitled NAASA Honor Nomination). Nominations must be received by March 1, 2017.

NAASA Board Elections
2017 Call for Nominations

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 2017, there are six Board positions expiring: four 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 (Ryan Rice, chair; Amy Lonetree and Joe D. Horse Capture) 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, Ryan Rice at ryrice@gmail.com.

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 Tours
Wednesday October 25

- Day trip to Osage Nation Museum and Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, Pawhuska, OK.
- Behind the scenes collections tours at the Gilcrease Museum and Philbrook Downtown. Two groups in the morning (10 people per tour) and two groups in the afternoon.

Post-Conference Tours
Sunday October 29

- Day trip to Cherokee Heritage Center, Talequah, OK.
- Behind the scenes collections tours at Philbrook Downtown. Two groups in the morning (10 people per tour) and two groups in the afternoon.

Save the dates! Details regarding Pre- and Post-Conference Tours, including costs, pick up and drop off times, and instructions on how to register for tours will be included in the next newsletter.
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 publishes a periodic newsletter, hosts national conferences, and serves as a clearinghouse for information relating to Native American art studies through our ListServ.

Name:  
Affiliation:  
Street Address:  

City:  State:  Zip/Postal Code

Email:  
Country:  

Phone:  

Choose your conference-to-conference membership level:  Enter Amount

Patron - $135 or higher  Standard - $50  Basic/Student/Independent - $35  $  

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:  $  

Print form and mail with check or money order payable to “NAASA”:

c/o Kate Morris  
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