

ACASA Triennial 2020: Call for Letters of Interest to Host

Due date: March 15, 2018

The Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA) seeks expressions of interest from members whose institutional contacts can host our Eighteenth Triennial Symposium on African Art in 2020. Institutions can be a university, museum, research center, or other venue appropriate for a conference of about 450 participants. Recent Triennial Symposia have taken place at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon (2017); the Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York (2014); and the University of California, Los Angeles (2011). For more information, visit <http://www.acasaonline.org/past-triennials/>. Other useful links include <https://www.dropbox.com/s/jnjx9s69p1lv11d/ACASA%20FINAL%20PROGRAM%2017.pdf?dl=0> and <http://www.acasaonline.org/acasa-16th-triennial-symposium-held-at-the-brooklyn-museum/>.

We emphasize that this call is not for proposals to host, but merely letters of interest. We will provide further details to all interested parties. Please submit these to Shannen Hill, ACASA President (president@acasaonline.org), Liese Van Der Watt, ACASA Secretary (secretary@acasaonline.org), and Leslie Rabine, (newseditor@acasaonline.org).

The Triennial Symposium is the premier forum for presenting cutting-edge research on the arts and expressive cultures of Africa and its Diasporas. It brings together scholars, artists, teachers, students, museum specialists, collectors, gallerists and other enthusiasts to advance research, knowledge, and collaboration. The Symposium features a rich program of panels, workshops, roundtables, and cultural activities. It includes a full day devoted to museum professionals. At the Triennial Symposium, ACASA presents awards for leadership, curatorial excellence, and the best books and dissertations in the field of African art histories.

As the primary event through which we engage with each other to share our passion for African Arts, the Symposium is a forum for advancing ACASA's mission: to facilitate communication among people working to advance knowledge about the arts of Africa and its Diasporas; to promote greater understanding of African material and expressive culture in its many forms; and to encourage contact and collaboration with African and Diaspora artists and scholars.

In order to host the Symposium, venues need to accommodate the following over a five-day period:

- 1) Five or six rooms of varying size that can seat between 25 to 50 people.
- 2) An auditorium that seats about 300 for a keynote and an awards ceremony.
- 3) Projection capabilities in all rooms.
- 4) Common spaces for breaks and lunch service.

You will be able to rely on ACASA Board and committees to support your work every step of the way. The Board helps form all Triennial committees, fundraises for the Symposium, and contracts with local vendors to supply all necessary materials.