



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Association for the Study of Women and Mythology
Biennial Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 16-18, 2018

Scholarly Speculations: Animal, Earth, Person, Story

Association for the Study of Women and Mythology (ASWM) invites critical, creative, and applied proposals for our 2018 biennial conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Our conference theme this year is **Scholarly Speculations: Animal, Earth, Person, Story**. We seek scholarly research exploring animal mysteries in myth and ritual around the world along with accounts of applied research, exploring or proposing partnerships of humans with animal and plant worlds in guardianship of the welfare of ecosystems throughout the planet. We welcome proposals that explore the intersections of human lives and human souls and animal lives and animal souls in the sacred places of their meeting.

We seek exploration of women-centered and earth-centered mythologies, sacred stories, healing practices, inter-generational exchanges, and traditional knowledge that empower the earth and all sentient beings who call it home. Additionally, we invite proposals that create meaningful dialogue between mainstream and marginalized perspectives and methods to articulate the role of sacred mysteries in elucidating the relationship of social justice issues regarding the welfare of women and the wellbeing of the planet.

Possible topics include but are not limited to

- Emerging new perspectives in post-humanism that grant agency to animals, our companion species
- New views on key species in myth and in the real world (such as: cranes/waterbirds, bears, great cats and wolves)
- Ethical perspectives in the use of sacred stories
- Narratives of women, social and environmental justice
- Methodologies for inclusions of mysteries in traditional and academic research, such as multispecies ethnographies, kinship, and feminist materialisms
- Animal communication, co-creation of meaning, mythical messages
- Intersections of sacred cosmology and science
- Traditional technologies and earth mysteries
- Animals, trees, sacred iconographies
- Place wisdom, environmental resilience, identity and myth
- Indigenous science and climate change: decolonizing environmental and ecological knowledge, environmental justice
- Violence against women and the planet: extinction of species
- Transnational perspectives on climate change, indigenous women's knowledge, and the role of non-human species
- Natural resource management and indigenous methods

We especially encourage proposals from first nations women of the Americas; indigenous women, internationally; and women of color.

Papers should be 20 minutes; **panels** with up to four papers on a related topic may be proposed together. Workshop proposals should be organized to provide audience interaction and must clearly address the theme. All sessions and workshops are limited to 90 minutes.

Send 250-word abstract (for panels, 200-word abstract plus up to 150 words per paper) in PDF or MSWord to aswmsubmissions@gmail.com by October 15, 2017. Use “2018 proposal” and last name in subject header. Include bio of up to 70 words for each presenter, as well as contact information including surface address and email. Presenters from all disciplines are welcome, as well as creative artists and practitioners whose work engages mythic themes in a scholarly manner. Presenters must become members of ASWM.

This year we will also feature a juried **poster session**. This is a great opportunity to explain your ideas and applied work in a more engaging way to a wider audience. During the evening poster session, participants will informally discuss their presentations with conference attendees. Poster session participants place materials such as pictures, data, graphs, diagrams and narrative text on boards size A0 (33.1” x 46.8”) or video. Video posters are short videos where the presenter discusses the nature and impact of their research/project which is illustrated on the printed poster they are displaying at the conference.

Send 200-word abstract in PDF or MSWord to aswmsubmissions@gmail.com by October 15, 2017. Use “2017 poster proposal” and last name in subject header. Include bio of up to 70 words and contact information including surface address and email. Presenters from all disciplines are welcome, as well as creative artists and practitioners whose work engages mythic themes in a scholarly manner. Poster Presenters must become members of ASWM.

See www.womenandmyth.org for program updates and registration.