



CONFERENCE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION

www.artsschoolsnetwork.org

To ensure highly engaging and meaningful sessions for conference attendees, ASN invites you to submit a presentation/session proposal for consideration. Prior to completing a submission, please review the following presenter information for our **2026 Conference - Borderless Creativity: Arts Bridging Cultures.**

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE- MARCH 31, 2026
WORKSHOPS WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

[SUBMIT PROPOSAL](#)

STEP 1: PRESENTER/FACILITATOR INFORMATION

STEP 2: SELECT AN **ASN CORE VALUE** FOR CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

- Relationship, Innovation, Diversity, Expertise, Sustainability

STEP 3: SELECT YOUR INTENDED AUDIENCE

We want to ensure your audience is filled with attendees who are the right “fit” for the workshop you are presenting. Please be sure to select only the categories that are in alignment with the workshop you’d like to present so your audience will be filled with engaged participants! There will be a list of participant types to choose from. (For example: school administrator, fund development, arts and/or academic instructors, grade level range, school counselor, etc.)

STEP 4: SELECT YOUR SESSION TYPE

All proposed sessions should actively engage participants in hands-on experiences, collaborative challenges, in-depth discussions, and/or the development of new ideas and hands-on applications.

- Session Types-Panel, roundtable, workshop, lecture, or other

STEP 5: PRESENTATION INFORMATION

- Session description, participant capacities, takeaways, outline, engagement strategies, room set-up/equipment needs, presenter(s) bio(s), headshot(s)

QUESTIONS? Contact Smaier-kennelly@artsschoolsnetwork.org

ASN CORE VALUES FOR CONFERENCE PROPOSAL

All proposed sessions must fit within ASN's core values.

Please determine which core value your session best aligns with.

RELATIONSHIPS: Building meaningful connections within and beyond our schools. At the heart of thriving arts schools are strong relationships—between students and teachers, across disciplines, among school leaders, and with families, communities, and industry partners. Strong sessions will offer replicable structures, protocols, or partnership frameworks that others can implement. We invite proposals that explore areas like the following (but are not limited to them):

- Building cultures of belonging and trust in arts-focused schools
- Strengthening partnerships with local arts organizations, higher education, and creative industries
- Advisory, mentoring, and student voice models
- Cross-disciplinary collaboration between arts and academics
- National and transborder/networked partnerships among arts schools



INNOVATION: Advancing bold, forward-thinking practices in arts schools. Arts schools are laboratories for creativity. Innovation may include instructional design, scheduling, technology integration, assessment models, leadership structures, or community engagement strategies. Sessions should move beyond inspiration to demonstrate how innovation was implemented, evaluated, and refined. We invite proposals that highlight areas like the following (but are not limited to them):

- Emerging instructional models in pre-conservatory or arts-integrated settings
- AI, digital media, and new technologies in creative learning
- Reimagined performance, exhibition, or portfolio structures
- Creative approaches to scheduling, staffing, or interdisciplinary programming
- Leadership strategies that drive measurable improvement in student outcomes

QUESTIONS? Contact Smaier-kennelly@artsschoolsnetwork.org

DIVERSITY: Championing equity, cultural responsiveness, and representation
Arts education must reflect and affirm the lived experiences of the students and communities we serve. Diversity includes race, culture, language, socioeconomic background, ability, identity, artistic tradition, and worldview. Strong proposals will demonstrate how diversity is embedded in systems—not treated as a one-time initiative. We invite proposals that address areas like the following (but are not limited to them):



- Culturally responsive pedagogy
- Expanding access to arts pathways for historically underserved students
- Curriculum design that centers diverse artistic traditions
- Student activism, voice, and social impact through the arts and academics
- Inclusive casting, repertoire selection, and exhibition practices

EXPERTISE: Elevating professional knowledge and practice. ASN values rigor and professional excellence in both artistic and academic domains. We seek sessions that elevate standards, deepen craft, and strengthen instructional leadership. Sessions should offer depth, specificity, and actionable strategies aligned to high expectations for student growth. We invite proposals that focus on areas like the following (but are not limited to them):

- Advanced discipline-specific pedagogy in the arts and academics
- Assessment practices such as juries, portfolios, critiques, and performance-based evaluation
- Professional learning communities and cycles of inquiry
- Coaching, feedback, and instructional leadership in arts schools
- Research that informs best practice in arts education

SUSTAINABILITY: Enduring long-term vitality of arts schools and programs. Sustainability includes financial health, leadership development, environmental responsibility, and strategic planning that ensures arts schools thrive for generations. Strong sessions will provide frameworks, tools, and lessons learned that can strengthen long-term organizational stability. We invite proposals that examine areas like the following (but are not limited to them):

- Funding models, sponsorship development, and nonprofit partnerships
- Advocacy at local, state, and national levels
- Building leadership pipelines in arts education
- Strategic planning and governance structures
- Environmentally sustainable production and design practices

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TIPS & PROPOSAL REVIEW CRITERIA

TIPS TO MAKE YOUR PROPOSAL STAND OUT

*Pick a topic that is timely, relevant, thought-provoking, and genuinely interests you. What challenges and successes are you witnessing on school campuses and how can those lessons be applied more broadly?

*Be clear and captivating in your title and description. A good title will invite the attendee to join by making the topic and coverage distinct and engaging. Make sure that your description supports the title. Your form submission will be copied directly to our conference program so be thoughtful as you complete your proposal.

*Proofread and edit what you've submitted so reviewers know you've taken the time to perfect your submission.

*Do you have a captivating lesson for your students? Taking your peers through this lesson can be an excellent workshop experience for our members.

CRITERIA ARE USED TO REVIEW PROPOSALS

Presentation proposals should be timely, prepared, and carefully considered. The workshop experience should be interactive, and provide clear resources, takeaways, and action points for participants to apply within their own campus or organization. To ensure that every participant feels their time spent in workshops is valuable, reviewers will consider the following criteria when evaluating presentation proposals:

- **Relevance:** The proposed session should interface with the felt needs, challenges, and opportunities in today's schools, organizations, and society. The session proposal aligns with the conference's overall theme.
- **Approach:** The following should be clear: the session description and objectives; how the session adds value to the conference and serves attendees; who the target audience is; what modes of facilitation the presenters will use; and what takeaways participants can expect.
- **Creativity and Innovation:** The session should bring to bear a new lens or perspective on its topic.
- **Demonstrated Expertise:** The session should present original research, applied knowledge of (others') recognized research or theory, models or use of evidence-based practices, personal mastery, and/or reflective practice.
- **Impact:** The session should lend itself to professional or personal application. It should be designed to encourage attendees to contemplate follow-up, continued exploration, and action planning on various levels.

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