



NAEA NATIONAL CONVENTION

GUIDELINES

for Preparing a Presentation Proposal

2027 NAEA National Convention

March 4–6 | New York, NY
New York Hilton Midtown &
Sheraton New York Times Square

MEMBER MOMENT

New for NAEA27! NAEA invites **YOU** to step on the main stage to inspire and energize the NAEA community, while celebrating the impact of art educators and highlighting the value of connection, professional growth, and shared purpose within NAEA.

Applications for this opportunity must be submitted separately from the Call for Presentations. [Learn more here.](#)



NAEA invites **YOU** to share your expertise face-to-face, with educators who are committed to NAEA's mission to "champion creative growth and innovation by equitably advancing the tools and resources for a high-quality visual arts, design, and media arts education throughout diverse populations and communities of practice."

Designed by members, for members, the NAEA National Convention provides a broad range of professional learning opportunities to inform, inspire, and compel exemplary professional practice supported by timely research. All sessions are carefully curated under the guidance and direction of NAEA members who serve as the National Convention Program Coordinators, liaise with NAEA staff and board, and participate on local and national planning teams. To offer a variety of ideas and diverse experiences, members are encouraged to collaborate in the development of proposals to provide varying viewpoints. Guidance in advancing the [mission](#) of the Association and considering perspectives on national issues or topics of interest can be found in NAEA's [Platform and Position Statements](#). We also recommend reviewing NAEA's [Core Values](#) and [Mission](#).

NAEA is looking for diverse and engaging proposals that do the following for the field of visual arts, design, and media arts education:

- Capture learner-centered pedagogy that is project- or challenge-based, and supported by research and practice-based evidence;
- Provide hands-on experiences with new techniques and skills;
- Explore the use of research strategies to inform teaching practice and/or advance the field;
- Inspire leadership among educators and/or learners;
- Engage in meaningful debate and dialogue on emerging issues or trends that define the field;
- Showcase strategies for designing curriculum and assessment that supports art standards; and/or;
- Present diverse ideas in response to timely issues and trends.

NAEA MEMBERSHIP

NAEA membership is **REQUIRED** for all presenters and co-presenters at the time of submission and at the time of presentation at the 2027 NAEA National Convention. NAEA will verify the membership of the primary presenter and co-presenters upon submission, and again prior to presentation in New York. Up to five (5) presenter names can be listed for any session. Presentations not meeting NAEA membership requirements will be rejected automatically. If accepted for a presentation, all presenters and co-presenters must register for the NAEA National Convention.

Join, renew, or verify your NAEA membership prior to submitting your presentation proposal:

- Online at arteducators.org/membership
- Call 800-299-8321 between 8:15am–4:30pm ET, Monday–Friday
- Mail* the NAEA membership form (downloadable from arteducators.org/membership) with payment

*Please note: mailing a membership form may create a delay in activating/renewing your membership. We highly recommend completing the process online or by phone to avoid potential issues when submitting your proposal.

Membership Questions?

Email membership inquiries to members@arteducators.org or call us toll-free at 800-299-8321 between 8:15am and 4:30pm ET, Monday–Friday.

SUBMISSION PLATFORM

In order to submit a presentation proposal, you will be prompted to create a free Submittable account. Submittable is the online platform NAEA uses to collect and review proposals. After selecting “Submit” beside the NAEA27 Call for Presentations, select “Sign Up” to create your free account before continuing.

PRESENTER DETAILS

Co-Presenters

Before adding a co-presenter to your proposal, please verify their willingness to be included and ensure their NAEA membership is current. You will also need to collect the following information from each co-presenter: first name, last name, email address, and NAEA member ID. Please ensure that all co-presenter information is accurate before submitting your proposal. Double check name spelling, emails, etc. Alternatively, you may also share the NAEA27 Call for Presentations form with your co-presenters using the “Collaborator” feature in Submittable. You may learn more about the Collaborator feature [here](#). **Please note: When using the “Collaborator” feature, in the proposal submission platform only the primary presenter can submit the final presentation. Adding an individual as a Collaborator on a submission does not designate them as a co-presenter on the session. If the form Collaborator is also intended to be a session co-presenter, be sure to list their name in the designated area.**

Individual Presentation Limit

Members may submit multiple presentation proposals for review. However, no member will be accepted for more than two presentations as the principal presenter, and no more than two presentations as co-presenter (excluding business meetings, Divisional or Regional functions, or a special presentation at the invitation of NAEA).

Presenter Availability

If your presentation proposal is accepted, please be aware that you are expected to be available to present on **any** of the 3 days of the 2027 NAEA National Convention (March 4–6, 2027). While we will make every effort to accommodate a preferred date/time slot, all presenters should remain flexible with their availability to ensure a well-balanced and dynamic program.

DELIVERY METHOD

All submitted proposals are for in-person presentations that will take place on-site in New York.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Deadline

June 30, 2026, at 11:59pm ET

Notification of Acceptance

You can expect notification of acceptance for your proposal by September 6, 2026.
For related inquiries, please email presenters@arteducators.org.

PRESENTER RESOURCES

Click on the links below to access presenter resources:

- [NAEA Inclusive Practices: Presenter & Presentation Guidelines](#)
- [NAEA Platform and Position Statements](#)
- [NAEA Mission and Vision](#)
- [NAEA Core Values](#)

WRITING YOUR PROPOSAL

Use the checklist below to collect the needed details to compile your presentation proposal prior to submitting it online. Carefully consider the five components on pages 6 and 7 that will be used by peer reviewers to assess your presentation. Maintain anonymity throughout this process. Do not include presenter names, institutions, or any identifying details in your proposal, as this could lead to disqualification. All submissions are evaluated anonymously by NAEA member committees.

- 1. Title of Session or Workshop** (10-word limit)
- 2. Primary Presenter and Co-Presenter Information** (Name, email address, NAEA member ID number)
- 3. Primary Presenter, Division and Interest Group affiliation(s)**
- 4. Session Type** (Choose ONE of four session types. See page 4 for details.)
- 5. Intended Audience** (Choose one, all, or multiselect from Elementary, Middle, Secondary, preK-12, Museum, Preservice, Higher Education, Supervisors/Administration, Teaching Artists.)
- 6. Learning Pathway** (Choose ONE of seven pathways. See page 4 for details and descriptions.)
- 7. Session Track** (Choose ONE of three session tracks for session review. See page 5 for details and descriptions.)
- 8. Session Format** (Choose ONE of six format options. See pages 5 and 6 for details and descriptions.)
- 9. Statement of Purpose and Outcomes** (100-word limit)
State the purpose of the presentation and the anticipated outcomes. The purpose will communicate the intention or goals, and the anticipated outcomes will give details of what attendees can expect from the presentation.
- 10. Organization of Content** (100-word limit)
Describe the content in a well-organized way with a clear outline of the presentation. Include descriptive examples that provide supporting evidence such as, but not limited to, lesson or unit designs, narratives, and exhibits or community events, for the subject matter being presented—this will vary for different presentation formats.
- 11. Relevance of Topic** (100-word limit)
Include details on how the topic is relevant or makes a timely contribution to visual arts, design, or media arts education issues and trends in the Learning Pathway selected.
- 12. Impact on Practice** (100-word limit)
Indicate how the presentation promotes best practices and provides an enriching professional development opportunity for attendees.
- 13. Cultural Appropriation** (100-word limit)
How does the proposal promote best practices that guard against cultural appropriation by demonstrating an insightful, competent, and respectful approach to art education content?
- 14. Brief Program Description** (50-word limit)
This version of your presentation description is what will be seen by Convention attendees in the printed program, the website, and mobile app. This description should encompass some of the information stated in the statement of purpose and outcomes to influence the attractiveness of your session.

SESSION TYPES

Select ONE session type that best aligns with your presentation. All sessions must be classified by one of the four types below.

❑ BUSINESS MEETING OR AWARDS CEREMONY

An officially sanctioned NAEA group (such as Interest Groups, Divisions, Fellows) business meeting or award ceremony. Limit 2 per group.

❑ SESSION | WORKSHOP

A session presentation or workshop at an NAEA National Convention is designed to offer art educators valuable learning experiences, new ideas, and practical tools to enhance their teaching practice. Presenters must submit their session/workshop proposal under one of seven Learning Pathways and can select from a variety of session formats, including hands-on demonstration, instructional demonstration, ticketed workshop, moderated panel discussion, research presentation, or deep dive discussion. **Time: 50 or 80 Minutes**

❑ DESIGN STUDIO PRESENTATION

The Digital Playground is now the Design Studio! The NAEA Design Studio is an immersive, hands-on learning space located in the Exhibit Hall at the NAEA National Convention. We welcome design-based instructional demonstrations and interactive presentations across all media—digital, analog, and hybrid approaches, designed to inspire curiosity and active participation. Sessions take place at table stations within the Design Studio space. Participants are encouraged to drop in, explore, and engage with a range of artistic processes, materials, and technologies. **Time: 50 Minutes**

❑ RESEARCH COMMISSION POSTER PRESENTATION

Through NAEA Research Commission Poster Presentations, presenters prepare a 42 x 72-inch printed poster and 2- to 5-minute oral summary of their research for an assigned 50-minute presentation block. Presentations may be delivered by one main presenter and a maximum of two co-presenters. Any NAEA member can submit their research for a Poster Presentation (members do not have to be part of the NAEA Research Commission to submit).

LEARNING PATHWAY OPTIONS

Choose ONE Learning Pathway that best fits the content of your presentation. All sessions must be classified by one of the seven pathways below.

❑ ADVOCACY

Sessions proposed will focus on development of advocacy tools and training; advocacy models for visual arts, design, and media arts education; legislative concerns and issues at local, state, and national levels; and other resources in support of the needs of visual arts, design, and media arts educators.

❑ LEADERSHIP

Sessions proposed for review will encourage dialogue and debate on current and emerging themes that support art educators as leaders, including but not limited to styles of leadership, training of leaders, teacher leadership, and student leadership impact on policy.

❑ EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Sessions proposed for review will provide insights into how art educators are utilizing equity, diversity, and inclusion strategies within curriculum, instruction, and assessment; including but not limited to instructional styles, cross-curricular planning and instruction, use of technology, project-based learning, cooperative learning, innovation, careers of the future, and impact on the economy. Sessions will provide a safe and supportive environment for all points of view.

❑ RECRUITMENT, DEVELOPMENT, AND RETAINMENT OF ART EDUCATORS

Sessions proposed will concentrate on the recruitment, development, and retention of art teachers. This includes a range of topics such as the National Art Honor Society, preservice education, professional development, professional learning communities, mentorship, and other innovative programs aimed at supporting art educators throughout their careers. This focus aligns with the recommendations from the Art Teacher Recruitment & Retention Task Force in Support of Current and Future Visual Arts, Design, and Media Arts Educators.

❑ RESEARCH

Sessions proposed for review will focus on relevant questions grounded in art teaching and learning from a variety of contexts, and will feature systematic inquiry and analysis stemming from the rigorous application of approaches from a variety of methodologies, including qualitative, quantitative, historical, theoretical, philosophical, and arts based. Sessions will provide a safe and supportive environment for all points of view.

❑ CURRICULUM | INSTRUCTION | INNOVATION

Sessions proposed for review will integrate curriculum design and instructional practice with innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to visual arts, design, and media arts education, emphasizing standards-aligned and culturally responsive learning, effective teaching strategies for diverse learners, creative experimentation, assessment for learning, and the application of emerging ideas that inspire student engagement and artistic inquiry.

❑ AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Sessions proposed for review will allow educators to pursue focused learning in specialized or emerging areas of practice that fall outside of the other six Learning Pathways, including but not limited to media arts, design thinking, and community connection.

SESSION TRACK OPTIONS

Convention sessions are organized into three tracks for the purpose of review. Choose ONE track that best aligns with your presentation. A Peer Review Committee that represents your selected track will evaluate your proposal.

- ❑ **DIVISIONS** represent different educational teaching levels. **NAEA's seven Divisions are:** Elementary, Middle, Secondary, Preservice, Higher Education, Supervision/Administration, and Museum Education.
- ❑ **INTEREST GROUPS** appeal to professional interests. See NAEA Interest Group names and descriptions [here](#).
- ❑ **NAEA COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES** represent specific topics including ED&I, Research, and Advocacy.

SESSION FORMAT OPTIONS

Convention sessions may be presented in a variety of learning formats. Select ONE session format that is most appropriate for your presentation.

- ❑ **Instructional Demonstration:** An explanation or demonstration of a particular instructional strategy, technique, or activity. The process must clearly be described in the proposal. This session is demonstration only.
Time: 50 Minutes | Room Setup: Theater-style with table for presenter only in front of room.
- ❑ **Interactive Presentation:** Share and apply techniques, materials, and methods for developing and enhancing art, media, and design skills through the application of effective tools and/or technologies. This session should be interactive and hands-on for participants and taught in a classroom-style environment.
Time: 50 Minutes | Room Setup: Round Tables

- Ticketed Hands-on Workshop:** In-depth, hands-on exploration of ideas, forms, and processes in the creation of studio work. The proposal must include a description of what participants will create. Presenters are reimbursed for cost of materials up to \$300 for 30 participants or \$450 for up to 45 participants.

Time: 1 hour 50 minutes | Room Setup: Round Tables or Workshop Pods

- Moderated Panel Discussion:** Interactive discourse among several debaters on the issues and trends advancing and/or impacting visual arts education or the profession of art educators. These sessions can be participatory and interactive, and can also include panel discussions.

Time: 50 Minutes | Room Setup: Theater-style

- Research Presentation:** Presentation of a theory, methodology, pedagogical philosophy, professional paper, thesis, published article, or dissertation on questions and findings from research studies, followed by Q and A.

Time: 50 Minutes | Room Setup: Theater-style

- Deep Dive Discussion:** Explores a core issue, method, or theory in art education. Presenters share insights followed by small-group discussions and moderated summary.

Time: 80 Minutes | Room Setup: Theater-style

NAEA can guarantee tables for Hands-On Ticketed Workshops; all other session types are not guaranteed to have tables for facilitation.

PROPOSAL REVIEW PROCESS

All proposals are evaluated using an anonymous peer-review process by Proposal Review Committees comprising NAEA members. Review Committees are formed annually and include members associated with each track representing Divisions, Interest Groups, or Areas of Focus. Each proposal is reviewed by peers with similar interests and expertise, and each proposal receives three reviews that are averaged for the final score. All scores are normed to establish a common benchmark for acceptance consistent with the number of proposals to be accommodated in the Convention program. Proposals are rated on a score of 4 (high) to 1 (low) according to Statement of Purpose and Outcomes, Organization of Content, Relevance of Topic, Impact on Practice, and Cultural Appropriation.

SCORING CRITERIA

Statement of Purpose and Outcomes

Is the purpose clearly stated, and are the anticipated outcomes well-defined?

4	3	2	1
Precise statement of purpose and detailed description of anticipated outcomes.	Good statement of purpose with some mention of anticipated outcomes.	Adequate description of purpose, but little indication of outcomes.	Vague description of purpose and no reference to outcomes.

Organization of Content

Is the topic well-organized with a clear outline of the content to be presented using examples as supporting evidence such as lesson or unit designs, narratives, or exhibits or community events, for the subject matter being presented?

4	3	2	1
Coherent organization of content with well-documented examples used as supporting evidence.	Good organization of content with helpful examples used as supporting evidence.	Adequate organization of content, but lacking sound supporting examples.	Poor organization of content with no supporting examples.

Relevance of Topic

Does the topic make a relevant and timely contribution to issues and trends in visual arts education in the Learning Pathway selected?

4 Highly relevant and timely contribution with potential to create widespread interest.	3 Reasonably relevant and somewhat timely contribution with potential to create good interest.	2 Low relevance, lacking currency, and likely to only generate marginal interest.	1 Lacks relevance and unlikely to attract interest.
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Impact on Practice

Does the proposal promote best practices and provide enriching opportunities for professional development?

4 Excellent model of best practices and highly likely to influence professional development.	3 Good example of best practices and likely to encourage professional development.	2 Acceptable contribution to best practices and a marginal impact on professional growth.	1 Poor description of best practices and unlikely to have an impact on professional growth.
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Cultural Appropriation

Does the proposal promote best practices guarding against cultural appropriation by demonstrating an insightful, competent, and respectful approach to art education content?

4 No evidence of cultural appropriation; where cultural signifiers are present, they advance insightful understandings of the context and meaning of cultural belongings and cultural art practice.	3 Cultural signifiers are insightful of cultural understandings of the context and meaning of cultural belongings and cultural art practices.	2 Cultural signifiers may raise questions about cultural appropriation.	1 Cultural signifiers are not appropriate with potential negative impacts.
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Position Statement on Use of Imagery, Cultural Appropriation, and Socially Just Practices

NAEA believes images have power and meanings that impact individuals, communities, and cultures. Understanding the complexity of images is foundational in the development of learners as artists, designers, and citizens. This includes the study of cultural origins and the use of images and their implied meanings. Visual arts educators are able to address implications surrounding the use of images through cultural appropriation and strive to inform societal practices and uses that avoid misinformation and perpetuating stereotypes.

NAEA encourages visual arts educators to make curricular and pedagogical decisions that:

- Acknowledge and respond to the unique world views and voices of different people and communities; understanding, valuing, and respecting different perspectives.
- Authentically reflect both historical and contemporary cultures and philosophies of diverse people.
- Address issues around cultural appropriation and move toward cultural appreciation, valuing the ownership and significance of cultural images, artifacts and processes.
- Eliminate perpetuating stereotypes, social inequities, and assumptions of cultural homogeneity in educational settings.
- Include culturally related resources to bring authentic voice, story, and perspective to learning environments.

NAEA supports the need for culturally sensitive and responsive visual arts educators who encourage critical socially just practices and policies that provide and promote increased awareness, understanding, and acceptance of individual and group identities that affect all human interactions.

PROGRAM CONTENT CONSIDERATIONS

The NAEA National Convention brings together teachers, district and state administrators, preservice students, college and university professors, art museum educators, teaching artists, and researchers to build community and generate new insights into issues, research, and practices affecting visual arts, design, and media arts education.

Sessions proposed for review should encourage dialogue and debate on current and emerging issues and trends that contribute to advancing visual arts education. Proposals should be inclusive of diverse professional communities and provide a safe and supportive environment for all points of view. Successful proposals will put forth sessions that feature an interactive and participatory format encouraging discussion, reflection, and creative problem solving.

Avoid the Following

- Using all capital or all lowercase letters, quotation marks, or other symbols in your title or description.
- **Identifying presenter or co-presenter names and/or institutions by name within your presentation title or description; doing so will disqualify the presentation.**

Preview and Review

Before and after drafting your presentation proposal, please look carefully at the criteria reviewers will use to evaluate your proposal. Proofread your proposal and be certain all parts are completed according to the instructions before submitting.

FINAL RECAP

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT:

- Make sure your, and all co-presenters', NAEA membership is current and everyone has agreed to present. Please list accurate and complete information for each co-presenter. This will aid in the ability to quickly and accurately connect co-presenters to their respective sessions. No names can be added or changed after submission.
- Be certain there are no identifying names or institutions included in your session description or title.
- Review each component carefully to be certain all information is presented as required and completed according to the instructions.
- Consider which learning pathway, track, and format best suits your presentation.
- Take another look at the criteria the reviewers will use to evaluate your proposal and be certain you have provided content to fully address each criterion.
- Please ensure the session description submitted accurately describes what you will be presenting if your proposal is selected. Presentations must align with selected proposal submissions.

Congratulations! You are ready to submit your proposal!